

# WORDS OF GRACE

A Publication of GracePoint Church

## The Hope of Glory

*“ . . . the word of God fully known, the mystery hidden for ages and generations but now revealed to his saints. . . . the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.”*

Colossians 1:25-27

**M**any of us live so far below what is possible as to potential, fruitfulness, and satisfaction in relationships simply because we keep believing the lies of shame. Many of us live as caged, toothless lions and lionesses in many areas of our lives, when in Christ we can roar and battle and reign as kings and queens of the jungle, in service to the King of Kings, Christ Jesus, the mighty Lion of the Tribe of Judah!

God had kept the gospel of a crucified and resurrected Messiah hidden for thousands of years. No one expected that. No Jew, no demon, not even the Apostles before Pentecost understood the full glory of the gospel. It was shockingly surprising enough that the Messiah would first be crucified and resurrected before becoming the conquering King. Then even more inconceivable, this conquering King, the Son of God Himself, was actually going to indwell His people through the Holy Spirit.

**“Do you grasp the unimaginable, incredible, indescribable power of the Creator of the universe dwelling within [you]...?”**

Do you grasp the unimaginable, incredible, indescribable power of the Creator of the universe dwelling within your mortal, weak body every day? The busyness of life, the wearying every day battles of our sin, shame, and struggle, the unbearable grief of the sorrow and struggles of our own life, of loved ones, of this world—all of these blind us to the hope of glory, Christ within us.

Yet, living out of our glory in Christ is the very heart of transformation, discipleship, spiritual growth, obedience, and missional living. Believers who are indwelt by the Holy Spirit are in Christ, and thus participate in Christ’s death and resurrection, Christ’s new life, Christ’s fullness, Christ’s glory. Christ has defeated the powers of darkness on the cross, and Christians share in Christ’s power and authority over that realm.

The New Testament presents this pattern: This is who you are in Christ, now live like that! We live now setting our minds on Christ, and on the glory we have now in part and will have in full when Christ returns. As J. I. Packer states, “The believer’s holiness is a matter of learning to be in action what he (or she) already is in his (or her) heart.”

Christ in you is your identity and hope of glory!

*Pastor Chris*



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Mon–Fri, 9:00am–2:00pm  
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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

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## GracePoint Elders

through January 2017

### Equipping

Doug Mulder

### Missional Outreach

Vic Learn

Bob DeMeester

### Fellowship

Wilma Sanders

### Prayer

Pam Hillary

### Stewardship

Mary Burns

Dan Baker

### Worship

Beverly VanDerZyl

## GracePoint Deacons

through January 2017

Care

Group Deacon

- 1 Lisa Gaylor
- 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

# Tempted by What We Already Possess

*But the snake said to the woman, "You certainly will not die! God knows well that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods, who know good and evil." -Genesis 3:4-5*

You already possess everything you *need* in this life. Of course sin distorts our desires into evilness, resulting in a disproportionate distribution of resources. Nonetheless, if we ponder and reflect, we will find there is a truer and holier desire behind our temporal desires. Our constant running, striving, scheming, and manipulating disguise the fact that we ultimately long to return to our true identity of beloved sons and daughters of the Most Sovereign God, a return that brings true rest and everlasting peace.

The irony of the encounter between Eve and the serpent is that the serpent tempts Eve to pursue something she already possesses. According to the serpent, "God knows well that when you eat of it . . . you will be like gods," and yet, "God created mankind in his image . . ." (Genesis 1:27), blessed and called man to fill the earth, subdue it, and exercise dominion over other living creatures (Genesis 1:28-30). Thus God desires to share His glory with us. As the psalmist puts it, "you have made [man] little less than a god, crowned him with glory and honor." (Psalm 8:5).

At the crux of the serpent's deception is the hurtful claim that God is a liar, that He is holding out on us. How could a God who made us in His image (Love) and gave us everything want anything less than the best for us? Eve herself adds to the lie: ". . . God said: 'You shall not eat it *or even touch it*, or else you will die.'" (Genesis 3:3). Moreover, the tree that God refers to as the tree of knowledge of good and evil, Eve refers to as the tree in the middle of the garden. Was the tree truly in the middle of the garden or was Eve so preoccupied with the tree that everything else became secondary, and even obscured? What is at the center of your life?

Taking this a step further, dramatizing God's command to include forbidding even touching the tree itself introduces the problem of legalism. God's commands are primarily given for our own good and protection. Legalism on the other hand, a form of evil, distorts these commands in a way that stifles freedom, hence love, and presents us with a God who creates laws that keep us from enjoying the fullness of life. There are many things that could result in Adam and Eve accidentally touching the tree. But given the abundance of food in the garden, eating the fruit would flow from an *intentional* rebellion against God. Small wonder that God cautions us not to add or subtract from what He commands (Deuteronomy 4:2).

It would seem that Eve is guilty of only dramatizing God's command, but there's more. First, Eve, in her hastiness, fails to ponder the serpent's claims against God. She misses the opportunity to not only consider the devil's words against the backdrop of God's own words and providence, but also fails to realize the error in her response. Second, in her false sense of pride and independence, Eve solely relies on her own understanding; she does not call on God or her husband for help. Third, Eve only sees the tree as "good for food, pleasing to the eyes, and desirable to gain wisdom" (Genesis 3:6), quickly abandoning her identity as God's creature. Contrast this with Mary's response to the angel Gabriel's claim that she is full of grace, has found favor with God, and will conceive and bear the Son of God. Mary responds with perfect humility by first pondering these claims, affirming her purity (virginity), asking the tough questions, and finally, rather than taking matters into her own hands, affirming that she is the handmaid of the Lord and submitting herself to His will, trusting that the Truth shall come to pass (Luke 1:26-28). Mary avoids the temptation of basing her identity in a lofty promise, choosing rather to test it first for its authenticity.

*(Continued on page 8.)*

# Led by Grace to Lead Praise



Since 2007, I have been “keeping tabs” on GracePoint via the church newsletter – never did I think that I would actually be IN the church newsletter! As GracePoint’s new Praise Team Worship Leader, I am thrilled to be a part of this church family. I’ve read many of your names before, and have been so impressed with the mission focus and dedication of GracePoint’s members. I look forward to becoming better acquainted with all of you, and worshipping together each week.

For all those who are wondering, allow me to share a little about myself. Born and raised in Iowa, I grew up in a small town called Rockwell, landed in Waverly for college, and then continued my migration east to Dubuque in 2006. By day, I’m a Quality Assurance & Testing Analyst at Crescent Electric Supply Company. By night and on weekends, I play piano and sing whenever and wherever possible. My husband Nathan and I will celebrate our 3rd anniversary on November 12, our daughter Eliana just turned 1 in September, and we’re working on building baby version 2.0 (a girl due December 9). I have three great loves in my life: the Lord, my family, and music. I try to incorporate each of these into as many moments of my life as I can.

As GracePoint’s Praise Team Worship Leader, my focus each week will be to praise the Lord through music. As each of us participates in worship together, my hope is that our prayers would echo those of the Psalmist: “Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.” (Psalm 19:14) Together, let’s “make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth! . . . Come into his presence with singing! . . . Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise!” (Psalm 100: 1, 2, 4)

I’m excited to work with the GracePoint Praise Team—a group of very talented, versatile, loving, fun people. My short time with them has already blessed me greatly, and I know there will be many more blessings to come.

*Sara Mortford.*



## Used Book Sale

**Venue:** Reu Memorial Library @ Wartburg Theological Seminary

**Dates:** November 2 & 3 (7:30am—10:00pm)

November 4 (7:30am—12:00pm)

### Notes:

- ◆ **Book Sale will be closed each day between 9:25am and 10:15am for chapel.**
  - ◆ **Prices start at 25¢!**
- ◆ **Sealed bids accepted on several sets of commentaries and larger works.**
  - ◆ **Book dealers must wait until November 3 and 4.**

## Pill Bottle Fundraiser—We Need Filled Bottles!



We received an abundance of empty pill bottles, and do not need more. We do need people to fill those empty pill bottles with pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters, and bills.

This money collected is used toward postage for the Shoe Boxes that are filled and wrapped at church. The cost to ship each Shoe Box is \$7.00. This money would otherwise come out of the Missional Outreach Fund, so whatever is collected in the pill bottles and used for the Shoe Boxes leaves funds Missional Outreach can use elsewhere.

The EMPTY pill bottles are in a basket on the shelf in the Connect Way. Please fill and return them to the basket marked FILLED pill bottles.

I thank all of you who participated in the Pill Bottle Project last year, and hope you will continue. Let's make the PILL BOTTLE PROJECT bigger than last year, collecting more money for the shipping of the Shoe Boxes.

*Pat Kohler*

Operation Christmas Child

Missional Outreach Ministry Team

## Another opportunity to "Serve Dubuque"



**Almost Home**  
-serving our neighbors-

Every year GracePoint supports St. John's Lutheran Church-sponsored program, *Almost Home*, by donating necessities to their Guest House. This is an emergency and immediate homeless shelter for men that operates seasonally (November to April). You can help by donating some of the things on the list.

- New underwear & socks (men, women, children)
  - Towels (new or gently used)
- New bedding (standard size pillows & cases, twin size sheets & mattress protectors)
  - Razors & shaving cream
    - Toilet rolls
  - Gently used backpacks
- Regular coffee, creamer, sugar, and coffee cups
- Cleaning materials & heavy duty tall trash bags
  - DVDs (PG-13 or lower)
  - Shoe deodorizing spray

***Please put donations in the marked bag in the Connect Way.***

*Note: Almost Home's Open Closet also accepts gently used clothes, toys, books, and gently used household items for their Open Closet.*

## Thanksgiving Special Offering



The Thanksgiving Special Offering will be collected the Sunday before Thanksgiving (November 20) and the Sunday after (November 27). This year the offering goes to the Dubuque Rescue Mission.

The local mission was established in 1932 and has provided shelter to men and fed the hungry since that time. They now provide 45 beds and serve more than 230 meals a day. The ministry includes two thrift stores and healing gardens in the summer months.

No government assistance is received by the Dubuque Rescue Mission. Please give generously to support this vital ministry in Dubuque.



## GLOBAL MISSIONS UPDATE

# Thankful for their Sacrifices—Praying for their Concern

In the spirit of Thanksgiving, please praise God for missionaries connected to GracePoint. Following are updates from a few of the missionaries, along with ways we can pray for them.

### **Sam and Elizabeth Schoofs**

Sam and Elizabeth have sought out testing and have consulted with the best doctors in N'Djamena, the capital of Chad. They have no answers for the cause of their younger daughter's symptom, blood in her stools. Please pray for their safe return to the United States, definitive answers and effective treatment for Susanna, and for the birth of their third child.

### **Woody and Barbara Busse**

Woody and Barbara are serving with Central Asia-Persian World Connections. Woody asked us to pray for the underground house church in Iran and his health issues that limit his life-style/ministry. Barbara is planning another visit to Central Asia. Please pray for her safety and the spreading of the Good News throughout Iran, Afghanistan, and Central Asia.

### **Robert Hamd**

Robert continues to direct The Philemon Project, an early childhood development center in Lebanon. The ministry continues to expand. Currently Robert is recuperating from a knee replacement in his part-time home in Washington, DC. Please pray for his complete recovery and for the on-going ministry in Beirut, Lebanon.

### **Isaac Elangwe**

Isaac has returned to Africa after seeking treatment in the States to restore his eye sight. His eye sight has not improved. Please pray for his continued ministry in Cameroon and for adjustment to his physical challenges.

### **Scott and Jessica Grote**

Scott's transition to Director of Aircraft Maintenance at Missionary Air Group (MAG) is complete. The family has moved to Burlington, North Carolina, the location of Missionary Air Group. Please pray for them to settle into their new community and for the continued ministry of MAG.

### **B. J. Weber**

In the recent New York Fellowship newsletter, B. J. described the tension in New York City on the 15th anniversary of 9/11/01. He also described his tearful address to a church in Dallas, Texas, on 9/11/16. (It was the first time B. J. had not been at the local firehouse in NYC on 9/11 in the past 15 years.)

A quote from B. J. is a good closing for this report. "The Lord calls us to love and serve one another. We may not have all the answers; in fact, we may be very limited in our counsel, but we can pray and show up and let people know they are loved."

Thank you, GracePoint, for letting our missionaries know they are loved and supported as they serve our Lord.

Submitted by *Beverly VanDerZyl*

for the Global Missions Team: *Scott Arnold, Ramona Hennings, Joseph Joseph, Pat Kohler, and Don Sanders*

# 2016 November 2016

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Mon</b>	<b>Tue</b>	<b>Wed</b>	<b>Thu</b>	<b>Fri</b>	<b>Sat</b>
		<b>1</b>  3:00p Global Missions Team	<b>2</b> 6:15a Men's Prayer Breakfast	<b>3</b>  6:30p Precepts 7:00p Emmaus	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>  7:00p Movie Night
<b>6</b> 8:30a Chapel 9:00a GracePath 10:00a Fellowship Common Grounds Open 10:05a Prayer Room 10:30a Worship	<b>7</b>  6:00p Food Pantry 6:30p Property Team	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 6:15a Men's Prayer Breakfast  7:00p Deacons	<b>10</b>  6:30p Precepts	<b>11</b>  6:00p ProtoStar	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> 8:30a Chapel 9:00a GracePath 10:00a Fellowship Common Grounds Open 10:05a Prayer Room 10:30a Worship  1:30p Bethany Home	<b>14</b>  6:00p Food Pantry 6:30p Missional Outreach Team	<b>15</b>  <b>Newsletter Deadline</b>	<b>16</b> 6:15a Men's Prayer Breakfast  6:30p Session	<b>17</b>  6:30p Precepts	<b>18</b>  6:00p ProtoStar	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> 8:30a Chapel 9:00a GracePath 10:00a Fellowship Common Grounds Open 10:05a Prayer Room 10:30a Worship	<b>21</b>  6:00p Food Pantry	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 6:15a Men's Prayer Breakfast	<b>24</b> <b>Thanksgiving</b> (office closed)  	<b>25</b> (office closed)	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> 8:30a Chapel 9:00a GracePath 10:00a Fellowship Common Grounds Open 10:05a Prayer Room 10:30a Worship	<b>28</b>  6:00p Food Pantry	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 6:15a Men's Prayer Breakfast  5:00p Church Decoration, Worship, & Social			

**Membership to Date**

Active	128
Inactive	8
Perm. Inactive	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>140</b>

**Clerk's Report**

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOE BOX Project is underway and filled Shoe Boxes should be in by November 5-8<sup>th</sup>. Empty wrapped Shoe Boxes are in the Narthex. Filled Shoe Boxes should be put in the Connect Center under the sign. List of items to go in the Shoe Boxes are on the table in the Narthex. Be sure and put suggested items in the Shoe Boxes. Cost for shipping the boxes is \$7.00 per box—enclose the money in the box or give it to Pat Kohler. This is a very, very special project and many children, who have nothing are helped and learn to know all about Jesus.

The next Blood Drive will be in January 2017—Watch for further details.

Remember the PILL BOTTLE FUND RAISER is still in progress. Fill the empty Pill Bottles with pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters or bills and the money goes to help pay for the shipping of the filled Shoe Boxes. The baskets for the Pill Bottles are on the shelf in the Connect Way.

**Treasurer's Report for September**

Beginning Balance, September 1, 2016	-\$3,646.48
Direct Transactions	.00
Income	14,284.55
Expenses	-12,764.87
Transfers	-833.33
Ending Balance, September 30, 2016	<b>-\$2,960.13</b>

Clerk's Report prepared by

*Pat Kohler*, Clerk of Session

**Alternative to Our Thanksgiving Eve Service**

This year, instead of our traditional Thanksgiving Eve service, we will host a special *Hanging of the Greens*, a church decorating venue on the Wednesday after Thanksgiving, November 30. This special event will include some worship and a short devotional by Pastor Chris, our pie social, and decorating our church for the Christmas season in time for our Old-Fashioned Christmas event on December 3.

The schedule is as follows.

**Anytime between 5:00-6:30pm:** Please come to start decorating.

**6:30-6:45:** Worship and Thanksgiving Devotional

**6:45-7:45:** Decorating the church

**7:45-8:00:** Pie Social (Bring your favorite pie to share!)

**8:00-9:00ish:** Finish decorating the church if you're able to stay.

*Please also note that since Christmas falls on Sunday this year, instead of having our traditional Christmas Eve Service, we will have a special Christmas Day Service from 10:30-11:30am with no Chapel or GracePath.*

**Movie Night!**

**When?** Saturday, November 5 @ 7:00pm

**Where?** GracePoint Church

**Showing?** *Courageous*

*Free ice cream treats from Dairy Queen & popcorn by Roger!*

## BIRTHDAYS

3 Mary Trenkamp  
 8 Joe Burns  
 10 Brandon English  
 12 Shelby Shaffer  
 13 Angela Baumann  
 14 Ben Cernek  
 14 Elaine Boettner  
 15 Doug Storlie  
 16 Ann Baumann  
 17 Lois Trausch-Wolfe  
 19 Carolyn Arnold  
 23 Madeline Perreard  
 24 Destiny Huston  
 24 Dan Brimeyer  
 25 Betty Carlson  
 27 Ed Boettner  
 29 George Schwartzman Jr.



## ANNIVERSARIES

3 Mike McCarthy & Dixie Shaffer  
 19 Don & Wilma Sanders  
 25 Barbara & LeRoy Berg  
 28 Pam & John Hillary

*(Continued from page 2.)*

Adam, too, in his complacency, abuses his God-given freedom by choosing not to exercise it for God's glory. In fact, the order not to eat from the tree of knowledge of good and evil was given specifically to Adam before Eve was created. It follows then that Adam should be more vested in this battle against temptation, but he stands aloof and does nothing, reminding us of the rich man who, although he did nothing to explicitly harm Lazarus, did nothing to help either, though it was in his power to step in and help (Luke 16:19-31). We could even question if, by deferring to Eve without hesitation, Adam relies more on Eve than on God.

Since Adam and Eve, the temptation to define ourselves apart from God is enduring. We often seek our identity in everything but God, constantly turning to the world for value. Our truest identity—that which is left when all is gone—is constantly under attack. But we would do well to remember that evil is nothing but a privation of good—for a lie to take root, the truth must first exist. Because of its lack of being, sin relies on the distortion and warping of our inherent likeness to God into something ugly, the abuse of God's freely given gifts, and the undermining of our security in God. We are driven to crave more out of fear and lust, loving our own good more than the ultimate Good, losing all in the process. Through self-willed pride, we love the part (our own self and other created beings) under the false assumption that it is the whole (God) (St. Augustine's *Confessions*). In our blindness, we chase reflections when the Light is in us, buying the lie that there will never be quite enough and that we are not good enough. This does not imply that we become barren. Rather, it suggests that we filter everything through the lens of God's unending and unconditional love, listen, and respond accordingly. It is then that we find we are able to choose trust over fear, and needless striving ceases.

Humbly in Christ,  
*Seabelo*

## What's Brewing at Common Grounds?



- **Open Hours**

Sundays: 10am-12pm

*More hours coming soon.*

- **Classes**

Thursdays: 6:30-8:30pm

Precepts

Teacher: Mary Hirschey

- **Live Video Streaming**

Sundays: 10:30am

Watch Worship on TV.

# Stories OF Grace

## Following the Golden Thread of Hope

Welcome to Stories of Grace! Each month we will feature a story of how God's grace carried one of us through difficult times, and how we continue to experience the transforming power of this grace in our lives. We welcome anyone wishing to share his/her story.

**S**eventy-five miles are significant to God.

In my 4th year of college at the University of Michigan, I had the opportunity to apply to John Deere for a Co-operative Training Program. This program alternated a work semester with each engineering school semester. When I filled out the application for Deere, there was a box to check regarding the Deere location at which I preferred to work. My desire was to work on Construction Machines, which were built in Moline, IL, and Dubuque, IA. I was from New Jersey, and so selecting a place in the Midwest, 1,000 miles from home, didn't seem to matter between two locations 75 miles apart. I just checked Moline.

Within two weeks after starting at John Deere in Moline, IL, it was announced that the Deere Construction Division was moving to consolidate with the division in Dubuque. That didn't make a difference to me, since I was 1,000 miles from home. What difference does 75 miles make?

While working in Moline, I attended First United Presbyterian Church. When they heard I would be transferred to Dubuque for my second Co-op term, they quickly said, "Third Presbyterian Church is the place for you to worship when you get there."

So, eight months later, in the fall of 1968, I arrived in Dubuque for my second Co-op term with Deere. And I began attending Third Presbyterian Church. Immediately I was welcomed by the Vandenberg family, and within a short period I felt like a part of their family. But I also met a sweet young lady, Pam Kirmse, who took the Sunday School attendance. Well, as they say, the rest is history. Before leaving after that four-month term, I began a special relationship with Pam. On my college graduation day, we became engaged, and a year later we were married.

Now as we look back on 44 years of marriage, we see how God has blessed us. Thank God that in His plan those 75 miles *were* significant. He brought us together in His perfect plan.

*Bob DeMeester*

**PRAYER CHAIN**

To start a prayer, call Pat Kohler.

**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**

Glenda Temple 582-0464

Kim or Jerry Bell 582-4956

Barbara Berg 608-732-3035

Sharon Baker 451-4557

Karen Storlie 556-7548

**Volunteers are Priceless at GracePoint!**

**Worship Venue 10:30am**

**Communion Preparers** (November 6) Glenda Temple  
Carolyn Arnold

**Communion Servers** (November 6) Ken & Mary Hirschey  
Doug Mulder

	Ushers	Greeters	Prayer Room
<b>November 6</b>	Doug Mulder Pam Hillary	Steve Lemon Sue Lemon	Doug Storlie
<b>November 13</b>	Ed Boettner Mike Boland	Dwayne Intveld Martha Intveld	Kevin Hirschey
<b>November 20</b>	Ben Temple Glenda Temple	Dan Baker Sharon Baker	Beverly VanDerZyl
<b>November 27</b>	Andy Baumann Ann Baumann	Dave Gaylor Lisa Gaylor	Janet Metelak

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

**ChildCare**

November 6 Janet Metelak, Steve Lemon  
November 13 Suz Birch, Sara Scherf  
November 20 Judy Godwin, Sue Lemon  
November 27 J'Neane Briden, Mary Ann Hopkins

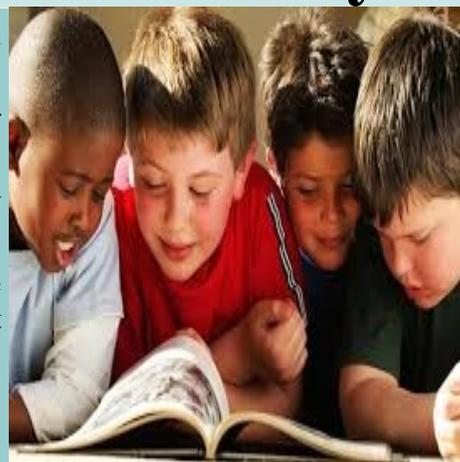
**Check Out the Library**

The library is open Sundays from 9:00am—noon.

Videos and books are available for checkout.

Stop by on Sunday to see the recently updated library!

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





## Christmas Party

**YA'LL COME: FUN, FELLOWSHIP,  
& FOOD**

**What?** An old-fashioned Christmas Night

**When?** Saturday, December 3, 5-9pm

**Where?** GracePoint Fellowship Center

Join us for a fun-filled evening of crafts, door prizes, fellowship, games, songs, food, face-painting, family portraits, and surprises!

Oh, did we mention food?!

Please commit to a committee to help make this a super fun evening with each one of us doing a little to help. Sign-up sheets are in the Connect Way.

Thank you in advance for your SPIRIT and help in making this a huge success as we prepare for the birth of Christ during Advent.

**Mark your calendars! Invite your family! Bring a friend  
or two!**

### Task Force in Place

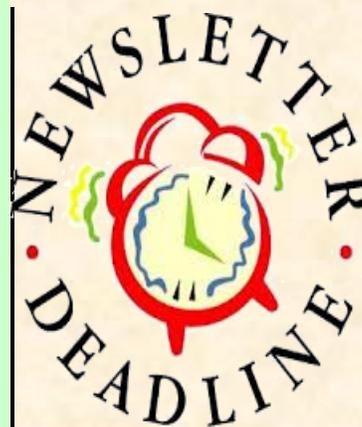
The Task Force to evaluate GracePoint's current position regarding finances and membership is in place. This group of courageous men and women will meet bi-monthly to review and prayerfully discern God's calling regarding GracePoint's future. Their intensive work will culminate in recommendations to Session on ways for the church to better use its limited resources. Below are the names of the members of the task force, both in leadership and non-leadership positions.

- |                      |                 |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| ◆ Ray Wlochal        | ◆ Andy Baumann  |
| ◆ Karen Storlie      | Elders:         |
| ◆ Mary Hirschey      | ◆ Dan Baker     |
| ◆ Ginger Vanderbroek | ◆ Bob DeMeester |
| ◆ Nicole Roling      | ◆ Pam Hillary   |
| ◆ Roger VanDerZyl    | ◆ Doug Mulder   |

\* Church Members are welcome to submit their individual input to any member of the Task Force.

\* Please keep these men and women in your prayers during this crucial time.

\* The Task Force will deliver recommendations to Session no later than April 2017.



**Tuesday  
November  
15**

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.





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### GLORIFYING GOD BY

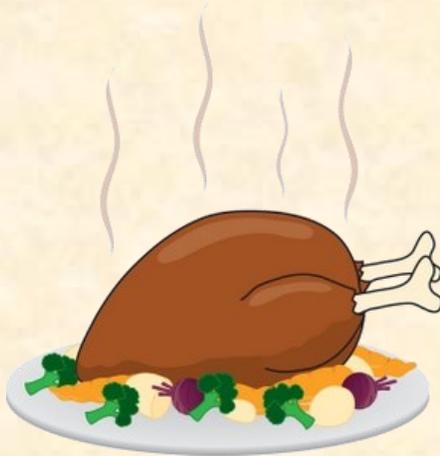
**CONNECTING** people to God

**LOVING** God and each other

**GROWING** in grace and truth

**SERVING** Dubuque and the world

# Thanksgiving Turkey



As you prepare to celebrate the blessings God continues to lavish upon you with your loved ones, please consider making a donation to the Food Pantry (money or turkey). The Pantry will give out turkeys to low-income families the Monday before Thanksgiving to help those in need celebrate with a full Thanksgiving meal.

**When?** Donations accepted through Sunday, November 20.

**Where?** Please give your turkey or money donation to Gerry Vandenberg (583-5338).