

January 2020



WORDS OF GRACE

Monthly Newsletter

Inside the Issue

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR BARRY...

Pastor Barry shares thoughts and hopes for the coming year, as well as the direction the Elders will be leading moving forward into 2020.

MINISTRY SCHEDULES

January Ministry Schedules can be found on page 7. Tear off this page and post it on your fridge or next to your family calendar!

MISSIONS HIGHLIGHT

This month we are highlighting the upcoming Feed My Starving Children event. See page 4 for details of how you can help support this cause in advance of the March packing date.

JANUARY HIGHLIGHTS...

- Jan. 1 - Happy New Year! (church office closed)
- Jan. 5 - Worship with Communion
- Jan. 6 - Elders Meeting, 6:30pm
- Jan. 9 - Missions Channel Meeting, 6:30pm
- Jan. 18 - SATURATE FDL Assembly @ Grace
- Jan. 20 - Deacons Meeting, 6:30pm
- Feb. 1 - Men's "NO REGRETS" Conference



In the beginning
was the Word,
and the Word was
with God, and the
Word was God.

John 1:1

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Pray that the Elders will have wisdom as they seek God's face and God's direction for us to join in His mission as the Grace Family, and as they look for God's guidance in shepherding His people.
- Pray for the Deacons to have wisdom as they come along side hurting people, and steward the resources with which we have been blessed.
- Pray for the Ministry Leaders to experience God's presence and power as they lead their ministries.

PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES

- **8:30-9:15am** Sunday Mornings in the Sanctuary
- **11:15am** Grandmothers Prayer Group (every other Tuesday)
- **6:30pm** Tuesday Evenings Corporate Prayer at GRACE
- **6:30am** Wednesdays Men's Prayer - Prayer Room
- **8:00am** Thursday Mornings Men's Coffee Fellowship & Prayer at Grace



at Lighthouse Christian Church
Saturday, February 1, 2020 | 8:20am-4:30pm

Tickets: \$25 Advance | \$35 at the door
18 & Under Free
Lunch included!

Available at the Info Booth & ReachOut Books

Tickets would make a GREAT Christmas gift for the men in your life!

Door Prize: 24" Two Stage Gas Snowblower

Featuring the Restore Hope Band

Contact Randy Hein (920) 933-5319 or

Rick Gedemer (920) 579-9509

with any questions.

A NOTE FROM PASTOR BARRY

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Happy New Year Grace Family!,

At the beginning of this New Year, much will be made of the fact that it is the start of a new decade, and we may hear many people using the analogy of having "20/20 vision". Therefore, as we begin this new year together as a *family of missionary servants sent as disciples who make disciples*, I want to share with you all the direction the Elders have discerned for us as we join together in 2020. On Sunday, January 5, as we study God's Word together, looking at Jesus' Words in more detail, I will share more about being disciples and making disciples.

It is our desire that, throughout 2020, we would be very intentional about aligning our lives with the mission and vision that God has given us from His Word. This mission is *'living out of our identity as a family of missionary servants sent as disciples of Jesus Christ who are making disciples'*. This mission statement finds its meaning in the context of our vision, which is *'to glorify God through us joining Him in the reaching of every man, woman, and child with the gospel of grace in Jesus Christ and connecting them into a loving relationship with God and others, so that they will worship Him in their everyday lives'*. What a joy and privilege to join God in His mission and vision for our lives! We are trusting the Holy Spirit to be at work in us so that the changes we will have to make in seeking, as disciples, to become more like Christ, will be evident throughout 2020. We believe that the outcome of some of this growth as disciples will be displayed in increased participation in our 8:30 am Sunday morning prayer gathering, increased participation in DNA Grace Groups, participation in SATURATE FDL, and dependently obeying what God will be revealing to us as we gather each Sunday morning to learn together from the gospel of John.

Last summer, the Elders discerned that our Sunday mornings needed to focus more intentionally on being disciples and disciple-making. As a result, after praying about Jesus' words in Matthew 28:16-20, we decided that we need to study together the theme of our identity through baptism. Jesus told us to make disciples by "baptizing" people; in other words, *helping people understand* their new identity as disciples. As preparation, we have been studying the book of Ephesians, which is filled with truth concerning our identity. Until we, as disciples of Jesus Christ, are living out of our identity as defined by God, it is very hard to be involved intentionally with disciple-making. The next phrase Jesus taught concerning being a disciple and making disciples, is *teaching people to obey* all that He commanded. This means that we need to be disciples who are dependently obeying Jesus *before* we ask others to do the same. Therefore we have decided to study the gospel of John on Sunday mornings, throughout 2020, as a way for us to learn together what it means to obey Jesus and help others to do the same.

Will you join the Elders in praying about our journey together in 2020 as we live out our identity as a *family of missionary servants sent as disciples who are making disciples*? I am looking forward to the New Year, and all that God is going to be doing, as we join Him in His work to make disciples of Jesus Christ.

Praying,
Pastor Barry

NEWS & NOTES

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Wondering what to do in the case of **INCLEMENT WEATHER**? Find out about any church-related cancellations by listening to **KFIZ (1450 AM)**, going to www.kfiz.com or by checking the the church website: www.gracechurchfdl.org



YOU CAN ALSO SIGN UP FOR OUR TEXTING SERVICE!

Text the word **"grace"** to 86677 for weather cancellations and other important updates!

This year we are again using the **"Read Scripture"** plan from the **"Bible Project"**. Download the free app for your mobile device, or use a hard copy of the reading plan. This



READ SCRIPTURE

journey will take us through the scriptures chronologically, and includes a reading from Psalms each day. Captivating and informative videos enhance your reading, available through YouTube. For more info, check out readscripture.org or thebibleproject.com. Hardcopies of the reading plan will be available at the Info Board.

Consider Online Giving of EFT (Electronic Funds Transfer) for your 2020 Offering and donations!
Details below...

Giving online is easy and allows you to set up automatic recurring contributions and view your complete online giving history from anywhere you have access to the Internet.

Simply follow these easy steps:

- Visit the church website www.gracechurchfdl.org
- Click on the "GIVE" at the top of the bar
- Click on the "Give Online" button, then
- Follow the onscreen instructions to create an online profile and to schedule your recurring contributions.



You may still place an envelope in the plate if you wish, just make note that you are contributing online. There are envelopes available at the Info Center for this purpose if you prefer. Please notify the office if you will not be using assigned envelopes!

Since many folks have been asking about Joyce Dille's new address, here it is!
She'd love to hear from you!

c/o Jim Rasmussen
162 Canterbury Lane
LaFayette, GA 30728-6386



SaturateUSA FOND DU LAC

Saturday, January 18th is the next opportunity to help with our city-wide "SATURATE" project. Join us from 9:00am to noon in the fellowship hall as we continue to put the packets together. Expect a fun morning of fellowship, including snacks, & music.

Please contact Randy Hein for details: saturatefdl@gmail.com

Save The Date!

The Memorial Day Weekend Campout is scheduled for May 22-25, 2020.

The deadline for reservations is much earlier than usual this year, and we need to have the numbers in by February 1st!



YOUTH FUNDRAISER | MON. JAN. 20TH



THE GRACE YOUTH INVITE YOU TO SUPPORT THEM ON MONDAY, JANUARY 20TH AT CASA DEL TEQUILA. THEY WILL BE SERVING FROM 5-8PM BUT WILL RECEIVE A PERCENTAGE OF SALES FROM THE WHOLE DAY!

Make it a point to connect with a **GRACE GROUP** in 2020, or think about leading one yourself.

"And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching." - Hebrews 10:24-25

Please contact Pastor Barry with any questions!



JAN. THEMES

Jan. 5th - Scarf Night

Jan. 12th - LOL Night (tell us your favorite appropriate joke)

Jan. 19th - Crazy Socks Night

Jan. 26th - Luau Night



Community Church's Awaken Women's Conference invites you to take the next step in your spiritual journey with courageous confidence. Invite God to rejuvenate you through Gospel-centered teaching, genuine Christian fellowship, prayer, and worship.

The Awaken Conference is February 29th from 8:30am - 4pm.

To view breakout session options visit ccfdl.org/awaken.

Tickets are available at Community Church, ReachOut Books or online at: <https://ccfdl.org/card/awaken-conference/>

DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS: February 21, 2020



Global Missions & LOCAL OUTREACH

THANK YOU ! THANK YOU ! THANK YOU !

On December 9 & 12, forty-two packages were shipped out to our men and women in service. Along with the packages went 196 letters from the Grace family. I would like to thank all of you for your monetary gifts and other donated items. God truly used His people this Christmas to bring a glimpse of love, support and hope for our men and women serving, both domestically and abroad. Thank you so very much! A *big thank you* goes out to all the Sunday school classes and youth groups for also writing letters. We would also like to thank RE/Max Heritage for helping gather gifts and letters to send with these packages. This year we were able to adopt a unit of thirty one men from around the area that were deployed to Kuwait. May you all feel blessed by being a blessing to someone else during this holiday season!

2 Corinthians 9:7 says: "God loves a cheerful giver."

A huge thank you to all those who that baked cookies or make candy. We sent 26 dozen cookies this year. We are continuing to collect items for our Adopt a Soldier program. If you know of someone serving or has changed their address, please contact the church office or Bonnie Springborn (project coordinator) at 920.923.0500

Thanks again -- you have been a blessing to so many. If you have any questions , contact Bonnie.

The Evangelism Committee & Bonnie Springborn

Thank You God for Everything

Thank you, God, for everything—
The big things and the small—
For every good gift comes from God,
The Giver of them all
And all too often we accept
Without any thanks or praise
The gifts God sends as blessings
Each day in many ways.
And so at this time
We offer up a prayer
To thank You, God, for giving us
A lot more than our share.
First, thank you for the little things
That often come our way—
The things we take for granted
And don't mention when we pray—

The unexpected courtesy,
The thoughtful, kindly deed,
A hand reached out to help us
In the time of sudden need
Oh, make us more aware, dear God,
Of little daily graces
That come to us with sweet surprise
from never-dreamed-of places.
Then thank you for the miracles
We are much too blind to see,
And give us new awareness
of our many gifts from Thee.
And help us to remember
That the key of life and living
Is to make each prayer a prayer of thanks
And each day a day of thanksgiving.

Living/Giving Principle #1

Before I give any of my material possessions to God as an act of worship, by grace, God wants me to give myself to Him first
(2 Corinthians 8:5-7)

Living/Giving Principle #2

If necessary, I must be willing to give sacrificially of my material possessions, in order that I or others might be made spiritually rich (2 Corinthians 8:8-9)

Living/Giving Principle #3

- Since everything in my life has been given to me by God, He wants me to be ready to give out of what He has given me for His purposes
- "For if the readiness is there, it is acceptable according to what a person has, not according to what he or she does not have."
(2 Corinthians 8:12)
- Make a list of all the material possessions God has entrusted to you and how they are currently being utilized for kingdom purposes?
- What other non-material resources has God given to you that you might be able to invest for Kingdom purposes?
- When you hear of a need, do you ask the Lord if He wants you to have a part in helping meet that need before you assume someone else will meet it?



Missions Highlight: FMSC

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN MOBILE PACK

Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) believes hope starts with food. As a Christian nonprofit, FMSC is dedicated to seeing every child whole in body and spirit. FMSC works with food distribution partners that stay with communities for the long haul, empowering them to move from relief to development.

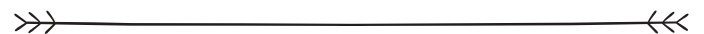
FMSC meals are developed by food science and nutrition professionals to supplement nutritional needs and reduce problems with malnutrition. Nutrition allows children to grow, thrive and develop to their full potential.

Our process is simple. Donations given by people just like you fund the meal ingredients. Volunteers hand-pack the meals. Meals are donated to FMSC food partners around the world, where kids are fed and lives are saved!

Are You Ready for the 2020 Fond du Lac MobilePack?



This year's Fond du Lac MobilePack goal is to pack 171,072 meals with 850 volunteers. Over a dozen churches will again join together to help raise the \$41,057 needed to have this event in our community. Your prayers, helping hands, and financial gifts, are all necessary to help those in dire need around the world to receive the food and hope that is life-saving. Join us in "being the Church" as we love others in Jesus' name and partner with Feed My Starving Children to turn "Hunger into Hope".



Important dates:

January 19 - City-wide "Have-a-Heart" Campaign. Please select a paper heart ornament and giving envelope from the lobby display and return by Valentine's Day. Send in the dollar amount on the heart in the addressed envelope to FMSC. *Please include event #2003-028SC on the check. Donations can also be made on the FMSC website, or on the Grace Church website.*

If all the hearts at all the churches are taken and mailed in, we should be at our financial goal before the event!

Everyone can help -- Heart gifts begin at just \$5.

February 28 - Sign-up online opens to volunteer at the event. Give & Volunteer at:
<http://bit.ly/FDLFMSC2020>

March 28 - One-day-only Mobile Pack at the Fond du Lac Fairgrounds Rec Building.



Contact Alisa Roberts with any questions:
920.322.0874 or
alisaseitz@yahoo.com

**Thank you for your
generous prayers, gifts,
and service!**

The Anchor Holds

by Jack Witte

“If by a still, small voice He calls, to paths I do not know ... I’ll answer ... Dear Lord, with my hand in Yours, I’ll go wherever You want me to go.” Mary Brown

There are many who will find themselves on a path today which they have no desire to be on. With it comes confusion, concern, fear, and sorrow. It’s a path that may be strange to you, one you have possibly never encountered before. It could be the path of illness, or the path of financial difficulty. Maybe it is the path that leads to a broken marriage or a broken heart. For some it might be the path that leads to the end of their time on earth.

For a believer, as frightening as this path may be, we know that it is a path that God created for us when He carefully designed every step we take in our earthly walk. It is a path that He has us on for a purpose, His purpose. So, it is important that we as believers, stay focused on what lay ahead, knowing that God is with us on the journey, and will never leave us without His saving grace.

George Barna once said this ... “Stay focused on God’s ways and His principles. Live every day in the knowledge that He loves you, and is present within you, enabling you to do mighty things.”

Today, as you face the uncertainty of what lay ahead, take time to pause, be still, and stand in God’s presence fully trusting Him, that by His grace, He will bring you through. Be confident in knowing that you are on the path God has chosen for you, on this day, and He will hold you safely and securely in His “righteous right hand”.

***“But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength.
They will soar on wings like eagles ... they will run and not grow weary ...
they will walk and not be faint.”*** Isaiah 40:31 (NIV)

I read this interesting thing about eagles in Joni Eareckson Tada’s morning devotional. “As birds go, an eagles’ wings are big, but the muscles that make them flap aren’t. Pound for pound and eagle’s strength is no match for the strength of a hummingbird. The strength of eagles is not in their flapping ... but in their soaring.” I know in my annual summer fishing trips, I have watched eagles soar as they ride a warm updraft higher and higher. It is a sight to behold.

I don’t know about you ... but today I WANT TO SOAR! The day (or even the year) ahead may be filled with the unknown, but I want to soar throughout it all as God’s word tells us. Fueled by the Holy Spirit, with my strength renewed by God’s grace ... I am ready for whatever it might bring.

What about you? Have you been doing a lot of flapping, maybe even *frantic* flapping as you try to get through whatever your circumstances might be? Today is the day! Today is the day to put your complete trust and hope in the Lord. Take this attitude, an attitude of hope and trust, and I guarantee you... YOU WILL SOAR!

Your Anchor will hold ... in spite of your storms!



Ministry Schedules

PRAYER PARTNERS

9:30 am

01/05

Bonnie Springborn

01/12

Tony & Ginny Ferdinand

01/19

Diane Nick

01/26

Chuck & Toni Stanley

*"Fervent prayers
produce
phenomenal
results."*

-
Woodrow Kroll

FIRST IMPRESSION GREETERS

01/05

Green Team

01/12

Purple Team

01/19

Orange Team

01/26

Pink Team

TUESDAY PRAYER

01/07

Dan Roberts

01/14

Rick Titel

01/21

Grant Baumgart

01/28

TBD

JAN. USHERS

George Trewin

Bill Stone

Tim Heeringa

Greg Fuhrman - sub

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

01/05

Traci Soeller & Leo Soeller

01/12

Mary Senn & Rebekah Titel

01/19

Jenny Smet & Russel Murphy

01/26

Tracy Roggentine & Amelia Vegter

Please remember there is only
ONE SERVICE

WORSHIP TECHNOLOGY TEAM

COMPUTER

01/05

Rob Murphy

01/12

RB Murphy

01/19

Keith Bestul

01/26

Dane Vegter

VIDEO

Michael Rutherford

Dy Fairbanks

Cole Vegter

David Rutherford

SOUND

Grant Baumgart

Ty Fairbanks

Josh Switzer

Sergio Hernandez



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office@gracechurchfdl.org
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GRACE CHURCH STAFF

Head Pastor & Chief Shepherd - *Jesus Christ*

Lead Pastor - *Barry Vegter*

cell: 948-5702 email: vegter@gracechurchfdl.org

Associate Pastor - *Grant Baumgart*

cell: 948-6373 email: baumgart@gracechurchfdl.org

Family Pastor - *Brad Rutherford*

cell: 313-0456 email: rutherford@gracechurchfdl.org

Administrative Assistant - *Carol Blain*

phone: 922-7211 email: office@gracechurchfdl.org

Communications/Media Coordinator - *Rachel Titel*

email: cmc@gracechurchfdl.org

Office Assistant - *Beth Rutherford*

Custodian - *Mark Jopling*

Pastor on Call: Friday, Saturday & Sunday

(920) 948-9262

Offering & Attendance

11/3/2019	\$11,780	254
11/10/2019	\$9,096	259
11/17/2019	\$11,151	282
11/24/2019	\$10,326	276

November Weekly Ave: \$10,588.25 268

Weekly average needed to meet budget

\$10,117

Year to Date Givings \$208,072

Year to Date Expenses \$217,560

Shortfall -\$9,488

Totals reflect November month-end totals

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Please submit information for the
February Words of Grace
to the church office by **January 15th**.
You can contact the office at (920) 922-7211 or
office@gracechurchfdl.org

Office Hours are:
Monday-Thursday 7:30am-4:30pm
Friday 7:30am-11:30am