

Amazing Grace

April, 2021

Volume 40, Issue 4



Our mission to the Inland Empire is to be **heralds** of the *transforming Gospel of Jesus Christ*, **healers** to our brothers and sisters in Christ, and **upholders** of God's will and Word.

A MESSAGE from Pastor Maggard

Dear Saints of Grace,

I am reading a book by Nicholas Carr called "The Shallows: What the Internet Is Doing to our Brains." It discusses how the technology of "screens" is rewiring your brain to make you easily distracted and a shallow thinker.

Technology is, in and of itself, neither good nor bad. I love how Facebook has enabled me to keep up with my extended family. I hate how Facebook has made me easily distracted and given me a false sense of relationships. While intending to bring people closer together, it has instead increased our sense of isolation.

Technology also shapes the way you think and look at the world. The simple technology of an alphabet has decreased our ability to memorize and increased our common knowledge. In our information age, the Bible has never been as widely available and as little known as now!

Carr makes a convincing argument that the technology of the internet wires our brains to think differently. This includes your smart phone. We are losing the ability to think deeply while at the same time we are easily distracted. This is a dangerous combination. Especially for Christians who need to think deeply about important things that matter eternally.

Here are my suggestions for all of us to help us to be more thoughtful, engaged Christians:

- Do your daily devotions with your physical Bible. I also highly recommend doing them in the morning before you look at any screens.
- At a different time in the day, spend a few minutes reflecting upon the devotion you did that morning.
- Spend at least one meal together with your family around the dinner table with no phones or screens on (including televisions).
- Read physical books that are difficult. Read fun books as well, but throw in some challenging literature from time to time.
- Spend some time each week without screens meditating on something. Contemplation and reflection are important for us.
- Leave your phone at home sometimes when you go out. Even just having the phone on your person still proves to be distracting.

- Limit your screen time, including television. Advent and Lent are wonderful times to do this.

This is a struggle for all of us, but it is a worthwhile struggle that will have a lasting impact.

In Christ,
Pastor Maggard

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Grace Family,

The Easter Holiday is behind us but the reason we celebrate Easter is always with us as we celebrate our risen Lord. Easter is always a special time for me because I reminded that Jesus died on the cross for not only my sins but the sins of the world.

I am grateful that Jesus went to the cross knowing He was going to die but did it anyway because it was His Father's will not His own was to be done.

How much different would your life be if you were quiet enough to hear what God's will is for your life. Would you have the courage to follow God's will for your life? My point is this, in the quiet moments of your life, see if you can listen for and act on what God has in store for you. It could change your life or someone else's.

In His Service!
Chuck Stringham, President

**Newsletter
 Deadline -**

**Tuesday,
 May 18th**

THIS IS THE
 Day
 THAT THE
 LORD
 Has made,
 SO LET US
 rejoice
 and
 Be GLAD in it.
PSALM 118:24

YOUR TITHES FOR THE LORD'S WORK

MARCH	OFFERING	ATTENDANCE
7th	\$ 6,133.00	39
14th	\$ 2,495.00	30
21st	\$ 5,550.00	33
28th	\$ 3,031.96	38



Annual Recycle Day at the Ronald McDonald House

Friday, May 7, 2021, during these two shifts -
 8:00am.- 11:00a.m. and from 3:00pm. - 6:00 pm.

They are accepting both
 CRV bottles and aluminum soda cans
 as well as any collected pull tabs
(pull tabs are accepted all year long)



BIRTHDAYS

2	Tamara	Mahomes
8	Savannah	Travers
9	Nancy	Nobis
13	Kurt	Wampole, Jr
15	Maletta	Miller
18	Nathan	Pickinpaugh
19	Carla	Del Rio
20	Nathaniel	Petrovick
22	Mike	Draney
22	Hannah	Villasenor
28	Patrick	Holm
28	Heather	Hathcock

Happy Anniversary

TO

2	Randy and Gail York
20	Tony and Katryn Mantz
29	Dave and Sue Nehls

Baptized in May

Richard Franzen Nancy Nobis
Kim Pickinpaugh



Thank you for remembering our “shut-ins” Margaret Dickenson, Bette Howard, Joyce McFarland, Larry Maudlin, Gloria Reinschmidt, Evelyn Smith, Ruth Spies, and Joyce Waters.

This month’s added prayers: Jim and Diane Kline; Diane Kline’s sister – Pearl; Pastor Holm; Kim Pickinpaugh’s mom – Joan; Carla Del Rio’s mom – Darlene and family; Anthony, Tamara, A.J. Mahomes and family; Allan and Barbara Dellinger; Ron and Kim Pickinpaugh and family.

We keep in prayer: Tony Mantz and family; Terry Pickinpaugh; Tamara Mahomes’ friend – Zenida and her best friend – Windy, Windy’s son – Jayson, his wife – Nikole and their unborn son; Mike and Betty Guinn; Bill Choske’s friend – Tim and Jackson; Barbara Dellinger’s dear friend – Pauline Johnson; Tamara Mahomes’ friend-Vivian’s son – Grant; Caitlyn Del Rio’s best friend’s family – especially, Azmoon; Carla Del Rio’s friend – Maria; Hannah and Mike Villasenor and their unborn daughter; Pastor Eric, Kawaii and Pastor Eric’s dad – Jack; Justin and Tiffany Izzo and their unborn son; Don Sidoti’s Uncle Douglas, Aunt Marge; Randy and Gail York; Richard and Pattie Lowe; and unspoken prayers.

jesus loves you

Funny Corner

Why do you never see elephants hiding in trees?



Because they are really good at it!