

Amazing Grace

July/August - 2021

Volume 40, Issue 7



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,

Summer is here! I know that is exciting for all of us, especially since mask mandates are being lifted. One thing the last year and a half has taught us is the importance of the mutual consolation of the brotherhood. A brother pastor posted this quote from Luther that is good for us to reflect on:

It was no minor matter that in the midst of strange nations Abram is compelled by necessity to separate from a very faithful companion and very dear nephew. A faithful friend is a great boon and a precious treasure in any situation of life, not only because of common dangers in which he can be both an aid and a comfort but also because of spiritual trials.

Even if one's heart is well grounded by the Holy Spirit, it remains a great advantage to have a brother with whom one can converse about religion and from whom one can hear words of comfort.

When Abraham is deprived of his nephew, with whom he has lived in exile among the heathen for so long, and loses one who has shared so many trials and dangers, who would not consider this a heavy cross and a great

evil? I for my part consider the loss of all my possessions less important than that of a faithful friend.

When Christ was wrestling with temptation in the garden (Matt. 26:37 ff.), we see Him seeking comfort among His three disciples. When Paul, in Acts 28:15, saw the brethren coming to meet him, he took courage from the sight and experienced comfort. Loneliness distresses a person who is solitary and deprived of his intimate friends. He can exert himself and struggle against it, but he does not overcome it without great difficulty.

Everything is less burdensome if you have a brother with you; for then the promise applies (Matt. 18:20): "Where two or three are gathered in My name, there am I in the midst of them." Therefore solitude should be shunned and the companionship of familiar people sought, especially in spiritual perils.¹

It is especially important for us to cultivate and maintain strong Christian friendships with a few people. It is important to have friends but especially important to have Christian friends. Why?

¹ Martin Luther, Luther's Works, Vol. 2: Lectures on Genesis: Chapters 6-14, ed. Jaroslav Jan Pelikan, Hilton C. Oswald, and

Helmut T. Lehmann, vol. 2 (Saint Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1999), 335.

First, our Christian brother or sister has the truth. They have the Word of God. They will not “cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ.” (Col. 2:8)

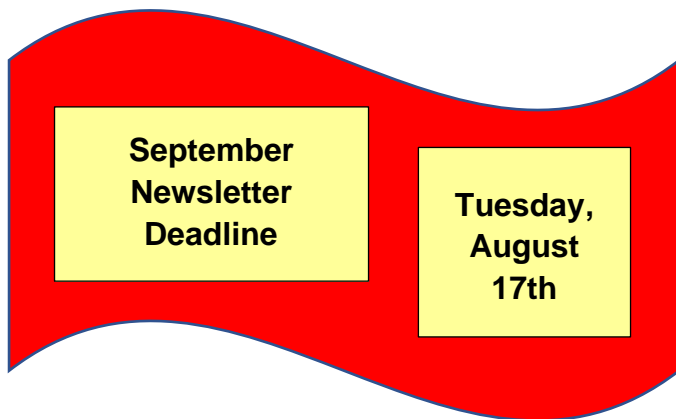
Second, they can tell you what you do not want to hear. “Rebuke a wise man and he will love you. Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be still wiser.” (Pr. 9:8b-9a) The Christian knows that “the fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom.” (Pr. 9:10a)

Third, they can give you true comfort in the midst of trials and tribulation. The Christian knows Jesus’ words: “Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.” (Mt. 11:28)

And you will be a great comfort to them as well. Therefore, cultivate strong Christian friendships with one or two people. You will be richly blessed, and you will be a rich blessing to those you befriend. These friendships should be in person, but that is a topic for another newsletter.

May God bless you richly this summer!

In Christ,
Pastor Maggard



PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Dear Grace Family,

Summer is upon us, and I hope everyone has plans to get away and enjoy some relaxation with family, friends and loved ones.

This past year and a half really had us wondering what kind of future we were going to have concerning Covid-19 and the effects of the virus on ourselves and families. As I am writing this on June 14th, I am eagerly awaiting the reopening of California that is supposed to happen on June 15th. I know that June 15th will not magically symbolize that Covid-19 is over but hopefully it will allow people to get a sense that better things are coming, and we can feel a small sense that things are slowly returning to normal.

It has been great to see the numbers increase in church on Sundays and being able to interact with one another like the loving a caring congregation that we are. I have steadfastly known that through all of this, God is in control, and He will continue to bring us through to the other side.

Stay safe and enjoy the summer months.

In His Service!
Chuck Stringham, President

YOUR TITHES FOR THE LORD’S WORK

MAY	OFFERING	ATTENDANCE
2nd	\$ 4,915.00	n/a
9th	\$ 3,510.00	43
16th	\$ 3,995.00	36
23rd	\$ 4,105.00	41
30 th	\$ 4,761.00	n/a



BIRTHDAYS

Breakfast With a Scout

This year's Scouting for a Cure Relay for Life breakfast will be held on Saturday, July 31, 2021.

The breakfast will be held in the Grace Fellowship Hall from 8 AM to 10 AM. Tickets are \$8.00 and it is an all you can eat breakfast. The menu includes sausage, eggs, pancakes, hash browns, juice and coffee.

There will be raffles and door prizes at the breakfast. All proceeds will be donated to the **American Cancer Society** to help find a cure for this horrible disease.

Meals may be eaten at church and a to-go option is available. The breakfast will be prepared and served by members of Cub Scout Pack 103, Boy Scout Troop 110 and Venture Crew 1110. Please see Kurt Wampole if you have any questions.

1	Lynda	Olson
2	Chuck	Stringham
12	Diana	Klemm
17	Rebecca	Mantz
19	Erin	Maggard
20	Kim	Franzen
21	Nancy	Telizyn
21	Ryan	Franzen
22	Dave	Nehls
27	Pastor	Maggard
28	Sherry	Herrera
28	Scott	Klemm
28	Kim	Pickinpaugh
30	Gail	James



The July and August Newsletters have been combined this year.

IN JULY TO

1	Bill and Judi Parker-	Choske
17	Larry and Debbie	Schwartz
29	Daniel and Eleanor	Holm



BIRTHDAYS

3	Anthony	Mahomes
4	Jacob	Petrovick
8	Alexis	Smith
8	Matthew	Nehls
13	Margaret	Dickenson
13	Grace	Nelson
19	Amy	Belter
26	Patti	Guerra
27	Bill	Choske
30	Diane	Kline



In August to

4	Luis and Carla	Del Rio
6	John and Sandra	Scharlemann
7	Andrew and Kathy	Holm
7	Josh and Emily	Torrance Sr
8	Mike and Carol	Draney
20	Scott and Diana	Klemm
25	Ken and Amy	Franzen
31	Brian and Ashley	Smith



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: Pastor John Scharlemann’s sister – Edith Rehbein; Sue Maeer’s twin sister – Katherine “kat” Kimball; Kim Pickinpaugh’s Aunt Mary and Uncle David; Sue Sidoiti’s co-worker – Michael and his wife, Kathleen; Dolores Smith’s son – Michael and her cousin – Betty Jean; Debbie’s son – Brian and family; Susan Maeer.

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; Diane Kline’s sister – Pearl Pastor Eric, Kawaii and Pastor Eric’s dad – Jack; Anthony, Tamara, A.J. Mahomes and family; Justin and Tiffany Izzo and their unborn son; Randy and Gail York; Richard and Pattie Lowe; Dolores Smith’s friend – JoAnn Thomas; Ron and Kim Pickinpaugh; Pastor Daniel and Eleanor Holm and Eleanor’s mom and dad; Carla Del Rio’s mom – Darlene and family; Judi Parker-Choske’s sister – Donna, Donna’s husband Luis and Carla Del Rio’s friend – Roger; and unspoken prayers.

Funny Corner

What is a tree’s favorite drink?



Root Beer!