



GraceNet

Knoxville, TN

September 2014

Going Against The Grain

Question: At what age is peer pressure the hardest to resist?

Answer: At every age!

We live in a very homogenized society. There is an “in” way of thinking about things. It goes across the board from the trivial (what should I wear) to the very significant (what is moral or immoral).

Especially in the United States, polls and surveys rule. If 60 percent of the people agree with some statement, then that’s the way it ought to be. People who feel differently and speak or act it out publicly better be ready to be blasted and perhaps forced to apologize or amend their comments.

Hence the term “politically correct” has entered our vocabulary. It is a very potent force in our culture.

As Christians we face this dilemma so very often. The word of God tells us not to conform to the pattern of this world. (Romans 12:2) In so many areas of life God want us to “go against the grain.” With His loving will for us He wants us to act differently in regards to sex, money, speech and with our relationships with others. Our Father wants us to live as children of the light in contrast to those who live contrary to His will.

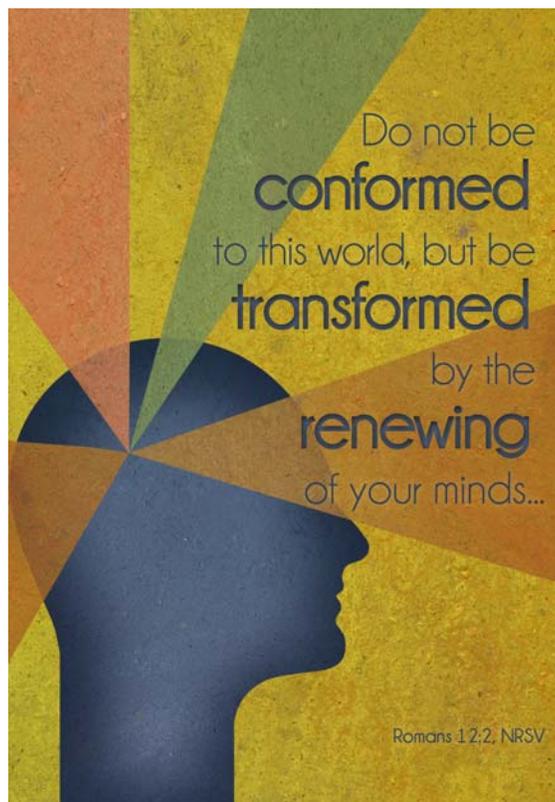
There are several ways to not be swept up by the crowd. One is a God displeasing way and the other follows Christ’s example.

I shall never forget being yelled out at Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, by this church group. They were yelling that I and others were going to hell. They didn’t know me or the people around me who were also heading to the boardwalk. The look on their faces was intense and frankly menacing.

Jesus would not endorse this group. Everything a Christian does – even when we stand in protest – ought to be flavored by love. We can act unashamed of Jesus – show courage and stand for Him – in very loving and inviting ways.

Increasingly, the most counter cultural thing you can do today is use the name “Jesus” in a serious way. Lots of people still talk about God. But mention Jesus and how you believe in Him and how you want to follow His ways – then you better be prepared to be mocked. Speak of Jesus on a Sunday morning in church and that’s OK. Bring His name out during the week and you’re weird.

Let Jesus be your Lord (your Master/Leader) and you are going to be different. But being different is so very good when you are aligned and following Jesus Christ!



~ Pastor Rich

Grace Youth Take the Love of Christ to Baltimore

This past summer, the High School youth of Grace spent a week in inner-city East Baltimore. They tirelessly served a thriving mission that makes it a goal to better the lives of the community children by teaching them to experience the love of Jesus Christ. Some of the students have been asked to recount their week, and their stories will be shared in future GraceNet articles. The following is an account from one of the Student Leaders on the trip, Anna Stoddard, a Junior at Bearden High School. ~ *Pastor Mark*

Our Trip to Baltimore

First things first, in Baltimore we were not exactly staying in the nice part of town. When we were driving into the east side I was thinking, "How are we going to survive this week, let alone thrive and make a difference in the community?" As soon as we arrived we were told that we would be staying with two other groups, one from Pennsylvania and one from Florida. So picture this: fifty people, four toilets, two showers, and only a floor to sleep on. The church also happened to have some rats running around. Hearing this, you might have thought that it must have been a miserable week for us, but you thought wrong. Hands down, I can honestly say that the week spent in Baltimore was the best week of my life. No one was complaining about the poor conditions, we were all just blinded by the new friendships and countless opportunities to serve Christ.

The first couple of days were a little rough. Waking up at 6:30 in the morning, hearing sirens, and being around thirty random people you didn't even know existed until a couple hours ago wouldn't exactly be the "ideal summer vacation" for a 16 year old, but for me it was absolutely worth it. One of my favorite parts of the trip was making so many new friends. Even though we were all from different states, over the course of the week you would not have even been able to tell. We became one big huge, happy family, full of love for each other. During the week there were three different camps: princess camp, prince camp, and sports camp. My favorite camp was the princess camp. I loved watching the little girls come in with huge smiles on their faces and nothing but positive attitudes, even though their living conditions were less than average. So when one of our teams went over to two of the girls houses to do room makeovers they were shocked to see how little the girls families had. They described the house as having almost no furniture, little to no groceries, and one of the families had three girls sleeping on the floor sharing a single blanket. It is completely eye opening experience to see how kids can be so happy with so little. All in all, the room makeovers were a smashing success!

The week flew by, and let's just say, along with the room makeovers, it was an absolute success. The last day of camp the kids were begging us not to leave and it was so difficult because none of us wanted to leave either. While saying goodbye to our new friends, it was harder than I ever expected. From homeless ministry and picking weeds, to our prayer walk, God was moving in our hearts every step of the way. My perspective on the world will be forever changed from our trip to Baltimore.

~ *Anna Stoddard*



GraceNet is published monthly by
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Articles for GraceNet are due by the 1st of each month for the following month's edition.

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If you have a special event you would like to have publicized in GraceNet, please submit the information to

Debbie Booher by the 1st of each month for publication in the following month's newsletter.



Healthline is a 30-minute Medical Education television show hosted by Grace's very own Sheila Wittke

AIR TIME: Sunday afternoons at 6:30 p.m.

STATIONS:

CTV COMCAST Cable Channel 12 (Knoxville)

CTV CHARTER + WOW Channel 6 (Farragut)

AT&T UVerse Channel 99

SEPTEMBER 2014 SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND GUESTS

September 7	Knowing Your Cholesterol Numbers - Dr. Casey Page
September 14	Esophageal Cancer—Dr. Paul Dudrick
September 21	Complex Hernia Repair—Dr. Joel (Trey) Bradley
September 28	Cataract Surgery—Dr. Matthew Lowrance

Our Grace Family

Meet Maureen Campbell

Maureen Campbell hails from Queens, New York, and one might bet she was strongly reminded of such a northern winter as the one we experienced this past winter season! Married to Ken, Maureen is most proud of sons, Colin and Ryan and daughter-in-law, Claudia. But her dog, Buddy, also holds a very special place in her heart. Once upon a time, Maureen was a stock broker assistant, a job she found most interesting. At home or in a favorite restaurant, you might find her savoring Italian food, especially pasta, accompanied by a healthful salad. And to work off those accumulated calories, she may be found swinging a golf club, gardening, or just walking. In more quiet moments, reading is her greatest way to relax. If she could be anything or anyone she wanted, Maureen would aspire to be a nurse, flight attendant or maybe a ballerina. Her wedding day and the birth of her children vie for her most memorable moment, and she admits that her eyeglasses/contacts are her most valued possessions. Maureen can be seen frequently smiling and talking with anyone nearby, which is conducive to her desire to 'becoming more evangelistic over time' since she deeply loves the Lord! That is most evident just being in her presence!



Newborns

Seth James Pettiford

*Proud Parents:
Randall & Jennifer Pettiford*



Caden Edward Pafford

*Proud Parents:
Scott & Brittany Pafford*



Tanner Thomas Garner

*Proud Parents:
Jason & Karen Garner*



Derek James Wilson

*Proud Parents:
Derek & Anna Wilson*



Alexander Cade Diegel

*Proud Parents:
Aleigh Fisher & Taylor Diegel*

Diversity in Non-Fiction Additions

Newly acquired non-fiction titles cover subjects from navigating a Spirit-led journey, to mission work, to real-life Amish stories, to United States politics and government.

The Road We Must Travel: A Personal Guide to Your Journey by **Frances Chan, Eugene Peterson, and Bill Hybels** (248.4 Cha): Seasoned authors and pastors offer encouragement, wisdom and biblical counsel on navigating circumstances common to most Christians—how to figure out your calling, how to live a Christian life in today’s culture, how to find purpose in suffering, how to resolve conflicts, how to break free from busyness. With this road trip in common and heaven as the common destination, these authors hope to offer peace and perspective for the journey.

Dispatches From the Front: Stories of Gospel Advances in the World’s Difficult Places by **Tim Keese** (266.92 Kee): Keese presents incredible accounts of the bold faith and sacrificial bravery of Christians in some of the most dangerous locations in the world from China to Afghanistan. But God’s redemptive work is far-reaching and Christians are encouraged to stand firm in the truth of the Gospel.

A View From the Buggy: True and Inspiring Stories of the Amish Life by **Jerry S. Eicher and Nathan Miller** (289.7 Eic): Eicher and Miller are well acquainted with the Amish life. In this compilation of stories by 30 Amish men and women, they share their daily lives, the love they hold for their animals, the joy of a community barn-raising, and the manner in which they handle tragedies in their lives.

What Works: Common Sense Solutions for a Stranger America by **Cal Thomas** (973.931 Tho): Radio-TV and print syndicated columnist, Thomas, has been observing Washington politics for thirty years. In this exposé, he presents solutions, not theories, on pressuring U.S. leaders to focus on the needs of hardworking people who pay their taxes wanting only to see their country achieve something of value and reestablishing values for all. Thomas’s catch phrase—“It’s *Groundhog Day* in Washington!”

New on DVD

God’s Not Dead (DVD Fic God): In order to pass his philosophy course, freshman Josh Wheaton must debate his atheist professor and prove to his class that God is alive. Court is in session. Josh risks everything to remain true to his beliefs.

When Calls the Heart: Lost and Found and ***When Calls the Heart: Telling Silence*** by **Janette Oke** (DVD Fic Oke): These are part 2 and 3 of this series which follows the journey of socialite Elizabeth Thatcher who ventures out to poverty-stricken Coal Valley, Canada, as a teacher. As she settles in, she finds herself in conflict with constable Jack Thornton

until a mute 8-year student goes missing.

Suing the Devil (DVD Fic Sui): In this courtroom drama, an aspiring young lawyer goes up against some of the country’s top attorneys as he sues Satan for several million dollars for all the heartbreak and evil he has brought into the world. But first he must prove to the judge that Satan and hell are real.

For Children

Veggie Tales—Celery Night Fever: A Lesson in Forgiveness (DVD J Veg): Celery Park, a favorite playground, is about to be demolished. If the Groovy Brothers Band would stop bickering and agree to do a benefit concert, the park could be saved. It all depends on forgiveness.

New Fiction

Inn at Eagle Hill series by **Suzanne Woods Fisher** (Fic Fis): From Amish fiction writer is this three-part series set at the Inn at Eagle Hill, a retreat of simple pleasures despite the complexity of the lives of those located there. Titles in the series are ***The Letters***, ***The Calling***, and ***The Revealing***, a

Family of Jesus by **Karen Kingsbury** (Fic Kin): The characters in these short stories were those who were closest to Jesus—Mary, Joseph, His brother James, John the Baptist, and others. Each tale intersperses fictional details anchored in Scripture with historical and theological insights and questions that will guide the reader to a new insight into Christ and the Scripture.

Child of Mine by **David and Beverly Lewis** (Fic Lew): Husband and wife team up to write a heart-stirring drama filled with suspense and romance. A woman’s search for her kidnapped daughter leads her to a man raising his adopted niece. After a “chance” meeting and a date with the man, she realizes she is falling for him. Unsure of the possible outcome, she knows she will have to tell him her motive for having been there.

When I Fall in Love by **Susan May Warren** (Fic War): Book 3 in the Christiansen Family series: Grace’s family surprises her with a cooking retreat in Hawaii where she meets a pro hockey player, Max, who cherishes his three-week culinary vacation. When they are paired in a cooking competition, Max finds himself drawn to Grace’s passion and confidence. But Max pulls away as he wrestles with his personal demons.

~ Mary Schultz



From Pastor Justin: This is part 2 of a 2-part series by Kari Kubiszyn Kampakis, Author, Columnist and Blogger at karikampakis.com Part 1 appeared in the August 2014 GraceNet.

10 Common Mistakes Parents Today Make (Me Included) - Part 2

Mistake #5: Missing the wonder of childhood. The other day I found a Strawberry Shortcake sticker on my kitchen sink. It reminded me how blessed I am to share my home with little people.

One day there won't be stickers on my sink. There won't be Barbies in my bathtub, baby dolls on my bed or *Mary Poppins* in the DVD player. My windows will be clear of sticky handprints, and my home will be quiet because my daughters will be hanging out with friends instead of nesting at home with me.

Raising small children can be hard, monotonous work. At times it's so physically and emotionally exhausting we wish they were older to make our life easier. We're also kind of curious who they'll grow up to be. What will be their passion? Will their God-given gifts be clear? As parents we hope so, for knowing which strengths to nurture enables us to point them in the right direction.

But as we project into the future, wondering if our child's knack for art will make them a Picasso, or if their melodic voice will create a Taylor Swift, we may forget to soak up the splendor in front of us: toddlers in footed pajamas, bedtime stories, tummy tickles and elated squeals. We may forget to let our children be little and enjoy the one childhood they're given.

The pressures on kids start way too early. If we really want our kids to have a leg up, we need to protect them from these pressures. We need to let them have fun and grow at their own pace so 1) they can explore their interests without fear of failure and 2) they don't get burned out.

Childhood is a time for free play and discovery. When we rush children through it, we rob them of an innocent age they'll never pass through again.

Mistake #4: Raising the child we want, not the child we have. As parents we harbor dreams for our children. They start when we get pregnant, before the gender's even known. Secretly we hope they'll be like us, only smarter and more talented. We want to be their mentors, putting our life experiences to good use.

But the irony of parenting is that children turn our molds upside down. They come out wired in ways we never anticipated. Our job is to figure out their inherent, God-ordained bent and train them in that direction. Forcing our dreams on them won't work. Only when we see them for who they are can we impact their life powerfully.

Mistake #3: Forgetting our actions speak louder than words. Sometimes when my kids ask a question, they'll say, "Please answer in one sentence." They know me well, for I'm always trying to squeeze life lessons into teachable moments. I want to fill them with wisdom, but what I forget is how my example overshadows my words.

How I handle rejection and adversity... how I treat friends and strangers... whether I nag or build up their father... they notice these things. And the way I respond gives them permission to act the same.

If I want my children to be wonderful, I need to aim for wonderful, too. I need to be the person I hope they'll be.

Mistake #2: Judging other parents -- and their kids. No matter how much we disagree with someone's parenting style, it's not our place to judge. Nobody in this world is "all good" or "all bad"; we're all a mix of both, a community of sinners struggling with different demons.

Personally, I tend to cut other parents more slack when I'm going through hard spells. When my child is testing me, I'm compassionate to parents in the same boat. When my life is overwhelming, I'm forgiving of others who slip up and let things fall through the cracks.

We never know what someone's going through or when we'll need mercy ourselves. And while we can't control judgmental thoughts, we can cut them short by seeking to understand the person instead of jumping to conclusions.

Mistake #1: Underestimating CHARACTER. If there's one thing I hope to get right in my children, it's their CORE. Character, moral fiber, an inner compass... these things lay the foundation for a happy, healthy future. They matter more than any report card or trophy ever will.

None of us can force character on our kids, and at age 10 or 15 character won't mean much. Children care about short-term gratification, but we, as parents, know better. **We know that what will matter at 25, 30 and 40 is not how far they once threw the football, or whether they made cheerleader, but how they treat others and what they think of themselves.** If we want them to build character, confidence, strength and resilience, we need to let them face adversity and experience the pride that follows when they come out stronger on the other side.

10 Parenting Mistakes *(Continued)*

It's hard to see our children fall, but sometimes we have to. Sometimes we have to ask ourselves whether intervening is in their best interest. There are a million ways to love a child, but in our quest to make them happy, let us stay mindful that sometimes it takes short-term pain to earn long-term gain.

Grace LWML at Mid-South LWML District Convention - June 6-8, 2014

by Sandra Arnold, Grace LWML President

Members of the Grace LWML attended the Mid-South LWML District Convention on June 6-8, 2014 in Fort Smith, Arkansas. Those attending were Sandra Arnold (Delegate), Cydne Albers (Delegate), and Nancy Duthey. Some of the business conducted was the new Mission Grants for the 2014/2016 Biannual and Officer Elections. Below are the results for the new officers who were elected to the Mid-South LWML District Board and the new Mission Grants.

Officers Election Results

Second Vice President	Sarah Brown	Mid-Arkansas Zone
Fourth Vice-President	Pat Funk	Mid-Arkansas Zone
Treasurer	Erin Foster	South Arkansas Zone
Recording Secretary	Lauren Drittler	Arkansas River Valley Zone
Nominating Committee	Susan Jones, Chair	West Tennessee Zone
	Nancy Duthey	East Tennessee Zone
	Shirley Robert	Middle Tennessee Zone
Pastoral Counselor	Rev. Mark Rhoads	East Tennessee Zone



Mid-South LWML District Mission Grants 2014/2016

Grant	Requestor	Amount
Financial Aid for Professional Church Workers	District	25,000
Special Needs Educational Program with LSEM (Lutheran Special Education Ministry) Immanuel Lutheran School, Memphis, TN	Tennessee West	10,000
The Hope Movement Assisting Women after Completing Rehab Program Lake Pointe Church, Hot Springs, AK	Arkansas Middle	7,000
Deaf Ministry Outreach Cross of Calvary Lutheran, Memphis, TN	Tennessee West	10,000
Trinity/Hope Lutheran School Feeding Program in Haiti providing a noon meal for one specific school Trinity Lutheran, Gallatin, TN	Tennessee Middle	5,000
Lutheran Student Fellowship (Campus Ministry) Peace Lutheran, Conway, AK	Arkansas Middle	5,000
Summer Camp Scholarships for 2014/2015 at Lutheran Camp at Petit Jean Hope Lutheran, Jacksonville, AK	Arkansas Middle	5,600
The Comfort Dog Ministry Concordia Lutheran, Nashville, TN	Tennessee Middle	3,000
Mwadi Lutheran School Boys Dormitory Construction, Tanzania Grace Lutheran, Clarksville, TN	Paducah	8,000
Mid-South District Church Planting (Partially Funded)	District	11,400
Total		90,000



WE REMEMBER SEPTEMBER 11

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E-mail address: glc@visitgrace.org
Sunday Worship: 8:00 a.m. (Traditional) and
9:30 a.m. (Blended)/11:00 a.m. (Contemporary)
Wednesday Worship: 6:30 p.m. (Blended)
Sunday School & Bible Classes @ 9:30 a.m./11:00 a.m.*

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