



GraceNet

Knoxville, TN

August 2015

A Spiritual Checklist

From time to time it is important to take a spiritual inventory. How is it with your soul? We have physical check-ups. We take our car in to see what needs attention. We have a financial and budget appraisal. We have assessments about what needs to be done to our homes. But what could be more important than evaluating our life in Christ?

So I offer this tool of my own creation. It is a spiritual checklist. May it lead you to put a priority on your spiritual health and perhaps make changes you need to make. (I am using this list myself.)

1. ***Are you reading the Bible on a regular basis?***
(Suggestion: Read a chapter of the New Testament every day or at least 5 times a week.)
2. ***Is your prayer life spotty?***
(Suggestion: Commit yourself to praying a minimum of 3 times a day.)
3. ***Is money ruling your life?***
(Suggestion: Become a generous person. Tithe...Donate to worthy causes...help out the poor.)
4. ***Are you alienated from a family member?***
(Suggestion: Repent! Then take the lead in seeking reconciliation. Don't give up!)
5. ***Has worship become just a once a month kind of thing?***
(Suggestion: Put God first! Make worshipping God a priority. Worship every week!)
6. ***Are you over busy, stressed and constantly on the go?***
(Suggestion: You need time to think. Schedule times when you will spend an hour just thinking about God and the big issues of the day.)
7. ***Do you keep your commitment to Jesus largely private?***
(Suggestion: Recognize that this is not God's will. Find natural, everyday ways to witness.)

I NEED

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____
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~ Pastor Rich

LWML News

Grace's Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) will be having their first meeting of the new year on **Saturday, September 17** at 9:30 a.m. in the church fellowship hall. This will be a business meeting to discuss plans for the upcoming year. **All women are welcome to attend.** Once planning has been completed, an events calendar will be posted on the LWML bulletin board adjacent to the congregational mailboxes.

If you are looking for a mite box for all of your loose change, you can pick one up there. The first Sunday of each month LWML celebrates NOISY CAN SUNDAY—a time to turn in all the mites you have collected.

Another reminder—on the third Tuesday of each month the LWML gets together to tie quilts in the Fellowship Hall as part of their Mission Project. No sewing is required, all you have to do is tie a knot.



Newborns

Hudson Alan Bell

Born: July 10, 2015

*Proud Parents:
Pastor Justin & Johanna Bell*

Our Grace Family

Meet Christine Harness

Christine S. Harness was proud enough to include her maiden name in her final “married” nomenclature: SCHLENNSTEDT. No doubt about that nationality’s origin, is there? No, I thought not! Christine hails from Westhoff (Dewitt City), Texas. So if you show her a bluebell, she will instantly be able to identify it. She has been married to Ralph Harness for 59 years and proudly lists four children, 11 grandchildren, and 13 great grandchildren. Can you imagine holidays with this gang? Yet, she also taught art in the Knoxville City/County school system for over 33 years in the junior high/middle school systems. If she is not painting, she can be found scrapbooking or possibly reading to “soothe the soul.” Small wonder Christine would love to be Mary Cassatt---so if you're interested---just ask her to show you some of Mary's famous works. Fond memories? Of course: her wedding day and also a trip to New Zealand/Australia. She would love to travel the world for a year or however long such a trip might take. Betcha she would find some of her German or Mexican foods somewhere along the way. But she won't limit herself to just this cause. She does have a bucket list and most likely could furnish you with her other dreams. Christine is friendly and loves becoming better acquainted with all kinds of different folks. In the final analysis, she values her faith, her family and her friends, which she terms “the 3-Fs.” She sums up her feelings by sharing that she absolutely has been blessed many times by God and is very thankful for each one. Thus, Thanksgiving Day goes on for 365 days of the year for our long-time member of Grace!



GraceNet is published monthly by
Grace Lutheran Church – LCMS

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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.

New Additions to the Library

Non-Fiction

Unlocking the Secrets of the Feasts: The Prophecies in the Feasts of Leviticus by Michael Norton (220.15 Nor):

In Leviticus 23, God set out for Moses the feasts that the Israelites were to observe so that they would remember that He is the Lord their God. These seven feasts are God's program laid out for us to know what His Son is doing in the world. After extensive study, Norton has written this short but impactful book which shows how the four spring feasts parallel events as seen in the New Testament and how the three fall feasts are to be fulfilled in Christ's Second Coming.

The Letter and the Scroll: What Archeology Tells Us About the Bible by Robin Currie and Stephen G. Hyslop (220.93 Cur):

This is a beautifully photographed and illustrated study of the Bible from the publishers of National Geographic. Using archeological finds, the authors write compelling supports for the truth of the Biblical accounts beginning in CA2000 B.C.E. through 150 C.E. This account ties history, archeology and the Bible to give its readers support for the validity of the Bible.

The One Jesus Loves: Grace Is Unconditionally Given, Intimacy Must Be Relentlessly Pursued by Robert Crosby (248.4 Cro):

Crosby asks two pivotal questions of his readers: How close can we get to Jesus? And how close do you want to get? Crosby presents six circles of relationships that formed around Jesus. First were the curious crowds, then the 5000 who were needy, then the Seventy who served His ministry, the the Twelve who walked with Him, then the chosen three, and finally Jesus Himself. Which circle do you wish to pursue. Scripture promises that if we move closer to God, He will move to us.

A History of God: The 4000-Year Quest of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam by Karen Armstrong (261.2 Arm):

Armstrong explores how the three dominant monotheistic religions have shaped and altered the conception of who God is and why He exists. She traces the history of how humanity has perceived and experienced God from the time of Abraham to the present day.

New Fiction

Hope Harbor by Irene Hannon (Fic Han): Set in the rural area of Hope Harbor, Oregon, Tracy Campbell returns to her family's cranberry farm to find it floundering much like she herself. She has returned with a tragic secret and a broken heart. A visitor from Chicago comes with his own secrets and regrets. A charitable project draws them together and brings hope and healing to their forlorn lives.



Empire's End: A Novel of the Apostle Paul by Jerry B. Jenkins (Fic Jen):

The Apostle Paul wrote almost one third of the New Testament, yet so much of his life remains a mystery. Jenkins traces Paul's life from his Damascus Road experience, through his three years in the Arabian desert, to his becoming the greatest missionary the church has ever seen.

Fatal Trauma by Richard L. Mabry, M.D. (Fic Mab): A gunman takes ER Dr. Baker and Nurse Kelly hostages. Before the ordeal is over, three men are dead, two from a drug cartel. And when a member of a drug cartel is murdered, revenge is right behind.

On DVD for Children

Thanks to a generous donation from one of our members, the library has the complete series of **The Story Keepers** (DVD J Sto) on 13 separate DVDs. "The year is A.D. 64, and in Rome, the church faces fierce persecution. Driven into hiding, Christians gather wherever it is safe, and together they brave the Emperor Nero's fury. At secret meetings, they learn about Jesus of Nazareth...And their faith prospers, thanks to courageous 'Tellers' like Ben the Baker, who with his wife, Helena, and their 'family'...keep the stories of Jesus alive in..." {taken from slipcover} the following titles: **Betrayed!; Breakout; Captured; Catacomb Rescue; The Final Conflict; Getaway!; Nabbed by Nero; Raging Waters; Ready, Aim, Fire; Roar in the Night; Sink or Swim; Starlight Escape; and Trapped.**

Find these and other materials new to the library collection on display throughout the month.

~ Mary Schultz

Bible Memory

Sunday School and Confirmation required me to memorize Bible verses. I did not enjoy that, even though I have benefitted from it over the years.

Richard Wurmbrand was a Romanian Lutheran pastor. He was imprisoned several times by the Soviets and was not allowed a Bible. He was surprised how many Bible verses he had memorized came back to him in prison.

A secretary at a church I once served was on a gurney parked in a lonely hall as she awaited surgery. She was somewhat apprehensive and was also surprised at Bible verses that came back to her and gave her a consoling peace.

A church in Florida divided the chapters of the New Testament among volunteers. Each memorized a chapter or two. One day they all came together at the church and each wrote the portion he or she had memorized. The papers were gathered and put in order. Then they were bound and placed into the church library. They called it their Bible. They did it as a reminder of what would be needed in case all Bibles were one day taken from Christians. During my lifetime that has seemed very improbable, but things are changing in ways that make it seem more possible than before.

Some people make memorizing things a hobby. Once they have committed something to memory, they review it again in a few hours. They review it several times the following day. Then they review it a couple of times the day after that. Eventually, they review it only

once a week or less. If they travel often by air, they use time on airplanes to memorize and to review. This means carrying the text with you on an electronic device or in a small binder,

While doing research for my 4th year thesis in Seminary I became aware of an interesting approach to memorization developed by B. F. Skinner. He noticed we usually begin memorizing the first few words and phrases of a passage. We do pretty well with those words. But, when we try to recall what we memorized, we continually find ourselves moving into parts that received less and less attention. He decided to reverse this by memorizing words and phrases at the end of the passage first, adding words to the front portion of what we have memorized. If we were memorizing John 3:16, we would begin by learning the words, "eternal life." Then add to it the words, "may have" for, "may have eternal life." Continue adding to the front end until you have the whole passage. As mentioned above, review regularly over the next day or two to fix it in your memory.

Lorne Sanny (The Art of Personal Witnessing) said missionaries in India could not get new Christians to witness about Jesus. Then they began to help them memorize Bible verses. After that the new Christians witnessed more freely. They could say, "Thus says the Lord!" and had more confidence.

~ Pastor Phil Bohlken

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

NEW AIR TIME : JULY 6 THRU DECEMBER 31 - MONDAY 11:00-11:30 A.M.

STATIONS:

CTV COMCAST Cable Channel 12 (Knoxville)

CTV CHARTER 193 + WOW Channel 6 (Farragut)

AT&T U-Verse Channel 99

AUGUST 2015 SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND GUESTS

03 - Fistulas—Dr. Bryce Bowling

10 - Trigeminal Neuralgia and Facial Pain—Dr. Michael T. Walsh

17 - Why Mitral Valve Replacement & Not Repair—Dr. Chadwick Stouffer

24 - Acid Reflux/Gerd Surgery—Dr. Roland B. Weast

31 - Dry Eyes: Allergies or Infection—Dr. Matthew D. Lowrance



Registration is open for the
2015 Grace Family Retreat

September 4-6, 2015

Fontana Village Resort
Robbinsville, NC

*Registration forms are available on the
church information desk or on the Events
page at visitgrace.org*



Family Retreat

Grace Lutheran Church-LCMS
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Fax: (865) 691-4895
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.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

TO:

