



GraceNet

Knoxville, TN

September 2015

More

We want more. Maybe not a lot more, just a little more is all we want. More will make us happy. More will satisfy us. More will bring peace and contentment.

- + We want an increase in our pay.
- + We want more vacation time.
- + We want more of a house.
- + We want more data, more minutes.
- + We want a better car with more accessories.
- + We want more muscles, more curves, and more fitness.
- + We want more sex.
- + We want more and better friends.
- + We want more respect.
- + We want more fun.
- + We want more attention.
- + We want more years to live--more time.

This list could be much longer. We want more of so many things. But even after achieving more we find the momentary satisfaction is just that: momentary. The drive to have more – to gratify our wants – is seemingly never ending.

Jesus had a radical message about this subject. He realized that our desire for more would also lead to an anxiety about whether we had enough. He tells us to look around and notice the birds and the flowers. He says the birds don't lift a finger (I know they don't have fingers!) and yet the Father feeds them. The flowers don't labor or spin and yet they are clothed in splendor.

Jesus' point is this: If there is anything you should seek or want more of, it ought to be His Kingdom and His righteousness. Jesus says if you have these things, He'll take care of your needs, and yes, even more grant you things that are not needs. Your Father in Heaven is extremely generous - - extravagant even in His gifting.

Maybe you ought to turn off your "more motor" and begin to think of all the things God has given you to bless your life and give you enjoyment. Begin with the higher gifts: Jesus, your faith, salvation, forgiveness, the Bible, the church and other Christians, love, joy, peace patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

Now how about those things the Father has given us for our enjoyment: air-conditioning, garage door openers, smart phones, music, art, Disney World, restaurants, carpet, gardens... God has been extraordinarily lavish. If you took the time you would have no trouble coming up with a list of 100 things God has given you because He is a bountiful God.

In your daily prayers why don't you start thanking Him for the higher gifts and the lower ones. Find satisfaction in what you have been granted. Realize what a true gift it is to appreciate what you have been given.

Thank you Father, you have already given us the "more"!

~ Pastor Rich

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you
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RD

Our Grace Family Meet Catherine Schade

But we fondly know her as "Cathy"---who was born in Hannibal, Missouri, and probably equipped to share some interesting facts about Mark Twain, also from the same spot. Cathy did retire from the "working world" once hubby Arlen graduated from college. She then became full-time wife and mother, which we all will admit requires a special calling. This role expanded for Cathy as she eventually became caregiver for son, Kent and then for Arlen. She currently does not own any pets, which would no doubt tie her down, but in the past she had a fair number to keep her motherly instincts alive and well! Food preferences include seafood, which she is now able to partake after 20 plus years of not being able to handle that. Serve her a good lasagna, and you will be rewarded with a broad smile. Cathy now enjoys playing social Bridge, sewing and just sharing lunch with good friends. But if she had unlimited time and money, she would channel it to help her siblings with all their health problems. What would she want? "To be more loving, slimmer, prettier, and even taller." Our gal readily acknowledges her many blessings and her innumerable great memories. She crowns off this offering by sharing that Arlen was so special in her life since he taught her so much about what is important. It might be difficult to realize that Cathy was very shy until she reached her thirties---because when you are in her company you absorb her appreciation of a wonderful family and friends from all over the USA. Our special lady has learned (as do many of us who share widowhood) that with God, you can get through anything. No wonder she lightens our presence whenever she enters into our circle!



Library Reminder

This is just a reminder to how to use our Church Library. When checking out books, the following is required.

1. Remove borrower's card from back pocket of book, video case or inside tape case.
2. On the card, print the date material is being borrowed followed by your name.
3. Place the card in the tray on the library table.

Check-Out Periods

Books: 4 weeks

Audio-Visual Material: 2 weeks

Each may be renewed for an additional 4 or 2-week period, respectively. If you are using any of the borrowed materials for a Bible Study, please note that on the check-out card.

If you are late with returning any items, a reminder notice will be placed in your church mailbox. Sometimes we make mistakes with our records, so please don't feel offended. We are so blessed to have such a wonderful selection to choose from. Thanks to everyone for your cooperation and enjoy your reading!!



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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.

September Additions to the Library



New Fiction

The Single Dad Finds a Wife by Felicia Mason (Fic Mas) and **The Rancher Takes a Bride** by Brenda Minton (Fic Min) are part of the Love Inspired publishing group. These two heartwarming inspirational romances (printed in a slightly larger print and in the pocket paperback size) are available to those searching for "light reading." Mason's title is set in Cedar Springs, a small North Carolina town where Doctor Darling is content with her busy job caring for children until David Camden and his son appear in her exam room upsetting her cozy life. Minton's book is set in Martin's Crossings, a small Texas town where Duke Martin is a hardworking rancher and diner owner whose life is turned upside down when his "old love" reveals that he has a 12-year-old daughter.

Refining Fire by Tracie Peterson (Fic Pet): Book two in **Brides of Seattle** series. Another inspirational romance which has two young people with dark secrets and haunting pain from their pasts being led by God to make something out of the mess of their past.

The Wonder of You by Susan May Warren (Fic War): Book six in the **Christiansen Family Saga**. This novel tells the story of Amelia who returns to Deep Haven from abroad. She is followed by the man who broke her heart and has crossed the Atlantic to beg her forgiveness.

Newly Added Non-Fiction

Proof of Heaven: A Neurosurgeon's Journey into the Afterlife by Eben Alexander, M.D. (236 Ale): Dr. Alexander was among those scientists who argued against near-death experiences until the day his brain was attacked by a rare illness and he lay in a coma for seven days. When he awoke, he shared his own near-death experience. Before his journey, he could not reconcile neuroscience with any belief in heaven, the soul, or God. Today, he is a believer who sees death as a transition.

Cabbages and Kings: Reflections on Living Abundantly in Christ by Dianne Barker (248.8 Bar): Through these short devotionals, Barker presents entertaining vignettes that are thought provoking and spiritual. She encourages her readers in their struggles while igniting a desire to follow Jesus wholeheartedly.

Spiritual Parenting: An Awakening for Today's Families by Michelle Anthony (306.874 Ant): Anthony calls upon parents to depend upon God for children's spiritual and moral development. "Parents are, by the power of God's Spirit, to depend on God in order to create home environments that God can use to beckon our kids to Him." (cover)

For Young Adult Readers

For young readers who enjoy wacky adventures and mis-adventures, they will enjoy the antics of "Bash" Hinglehobb who entertains his cousins when they spend time with him on the farm. Choose from three of his antics: **Bash and the Pirate Pig**, **Bash and the Chicken Coop Caper**, or **Bash and the Chocolate Mike Cows** (YA Fic Col). Each book is written by humorist *Burton W. Cole*.

For the Youngest Readers

The Special Gifts of Summer by Dandi Daley Mackall (J Mac) completes her stories about the celebrations and seasons of the year. Also enjoy her insights on fall, winter, and spring.

From *Stan, Jan and Mike Berenstain* are the following materials starring the Berenstain Bear Family: **Bear Country Blessings** (J Ber) contains three different stories; **Lessons in Love** (J Ber) which also contains three of their popular stories. If your little ones prefer DVD's, check out these bear stories: **Bear Country** (DVD J Ber), **Bears Count Their Blessings** (DVD J Ber) or **Playdates** (DVD J Ber). The Bears continue to entertain children of all ages. As they bring smiles because of their antics, they also teach values, morals, and life lessons.

New Audio-Visual Materials

The following title is available on CD from Max Lucado: **Grace: More Than We Deserve; Greater Than We Imagine** (CD 234.2 Luc)

On DVD: **Louis Zamperini: Captured By Grace** (DVD 921 Zam) Learn the story behind the man whose life was the basis of the film **Unbroken**.

Summer Snow: One Life Can Make a Difference (DVD Fic Sum).

Enjoy all these materials new to the library collection. They will be on display throughout the month.

~ Mary Schultz

Antidote for Worry

Few experiences are more common among us than worry about the future. Intellectually we know God is in control and that we cannot steer our future. But, we fret about what might happen. The following paragraph is Philippians 4:4-9 (ESV). At a seminar many years ago the speaker suggested writing this on a card or a slip of paper. Carry it in your pocket or purse.

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you."

Whenever you feel anxious, retrieve these verses. Read them. Think about them. Then tell God exactly what is on your heart and mind. Be sure to thank God. Thank Him for the answer to your prayer, even if you have not seen it yet. Thank God that you can present your worries to Him in prayer. Thank God for answers to prior prayers. Thank God for the forgiveness of sins through Jesus. There is some-

thing about sincerely thanking God that drives out room for worry. Use this passage from Philippians and say a prayer as often as needed. If that is several times an hour, so be it.

When I was regularly active in a local congregation, I kept a stack of recipe cards with Philippians 4:4-9 mimeographed on them. Often I reached into a drawer and handed one or more of these cards to someone who had come to my office. Many said these verses really helped them with their worrying. Some even came back with stories of surprising ways God provided for their needs when any solution seemed utterly impossible.

There are numerous other passages that encourage us to trust God, despite our worries. One is Matthew 6:19-34. Another is Psalm 37:1-8.

I personally like Psalm 23:1. *"The LORD (Yahweh, Supreme Creator of the universe Who promises in Christ always to be with me) is my Shepherd. I shall lack for nothing."* As God seeks to mold and shape us to conform more closely to the image of Christ, we will experience testings designed to teach us to trust God more completely, despite the impossible circumstances we see everywhere around us. In difficult times I have sat in isolation and repeated the first verse of Psalm 23 to myself over and over.

~ Rev. Phil Bohlken



"A Night of Music"

Sunday, September 20, 2015 - 4:00 p.m.

The Handbell Choir, along with several other musicians from Grace, will be performing a variety of tune for your enjoyment as our way of thanking you for your generous contributions that helped us acquire a new octave of handbells. Please join us!

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

AIR TIME: Monday Mornings at 11:00 a.m.

STATIONS:

CTV COMCAST Cable Channel 12 (Knoxville)

CTV CHARTER 193 + WOW Channel 6 (Farragut)

AT&T U-Verse Channel 99

SEPTEMBER 2015 SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND GUESTS

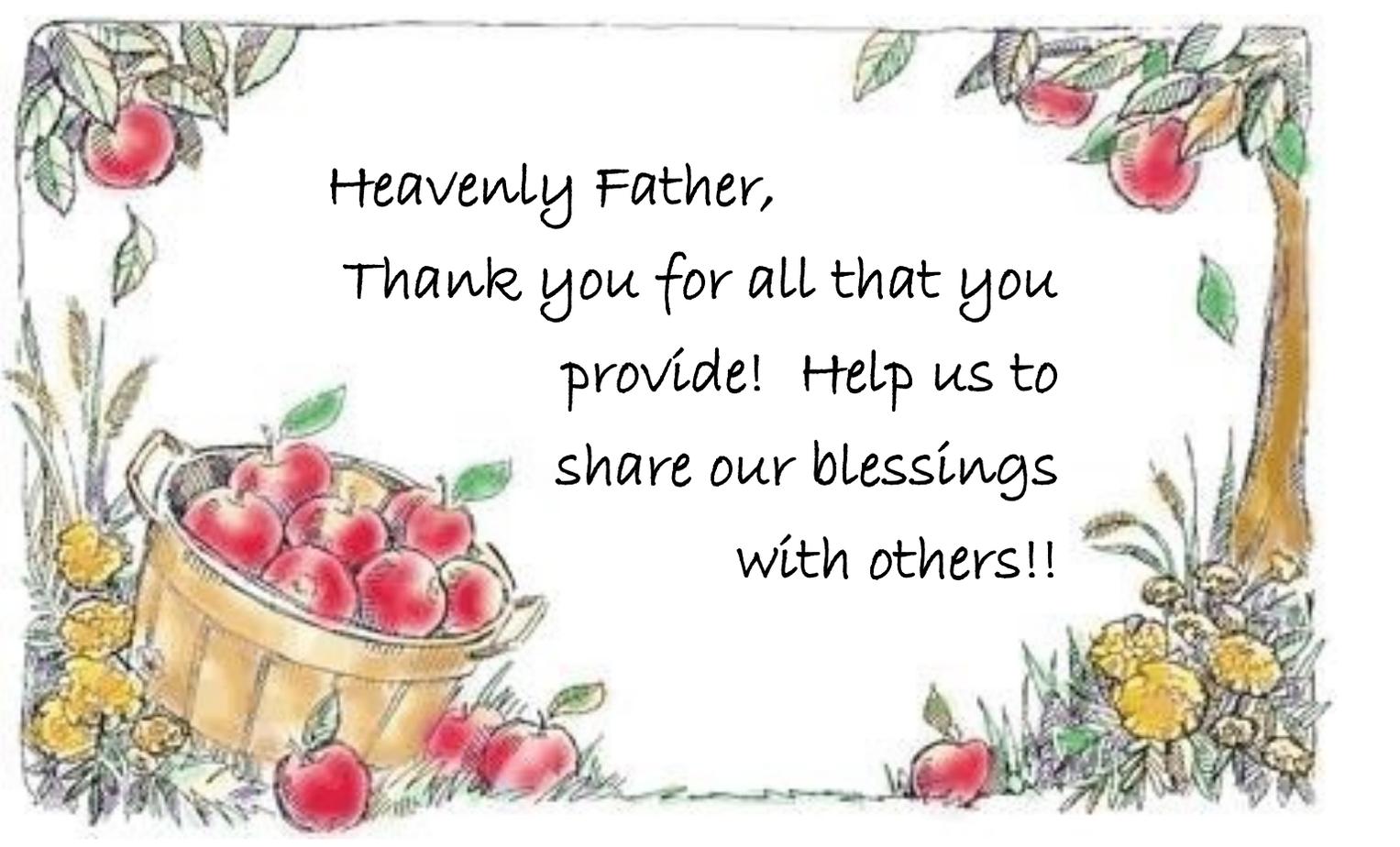
07 - Holes in the Heart in Newborns - Dr. Michael R. Liske

14 - When to Have Gallbladder Surgery - Dr. David Harrell

21 - Treating Varicose Veins - Dr. Richard M. Young

28 - Sugars Versus Artificial Sweeteners - Dr. Rocio A. Huet





Heavenly Father,
Thank you for all that you
provide! Help us to
share our blessings
with others!!

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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:

