



GraceNet

Knoxville, TN

September 2017

When is the Last Time You Read the Book of Proverbs?

"Stupid is as stupid does."

Have you done stupid things? Have you made unwise decisions? Are there times you should have kept your mouth shut? Have you listened to the wrong people? Do you really have to make grievous mistakes before you make right choices?

God has placed the Book of Proverbs in the Bible as a gift to us. He offers us a wealth of wisdom so we don't have to run into walls because of our bad decisions and actions. Young people can save themselves a world of hurt if they will just heed the wisdom found in this book. Older people too, can learn that they needn't make the same mistakes over and over again. We can take up the wisdom offered to us and avoid the grief that inevitably comes from our foolhardy ways.

Here is a sampling of the kind of wisdom that the Book of Proverbs offers us:

On committing adultery: *"Can a man scoop fire into his lap without his clothes being burned? Can a man walk on hot coals without his feet being scorched? So is he who sleeps with another man's wife; no one who touches her will go unpunished."*

On talking: *"When words are many, sin is not absent, but he who holds his tongue is wise."*

On desiring discipline: *"Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge, but he who hates correction is stupid."*

On work: *"He who works his land will have abundant food. But he who chases fantasies lacks judgement."*

On the poor: *"He who oppresses the poor shows contempt for their Maker, but whoever is kind to the needy honors God."*

On pride: *"Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall."*

On dissension: *"A perverse man stirs up dissension, and a gossip separates close friends." "He who loves a quarrel loves sin..."*

On listening: *"He who answers before listening - that is his folly and his shame."*

On drunkenness: *"Wine is a mocker and beer a brawler; whoever is led astray by them is not wise."*

(Continued on page 2)



Proverbs *(Continued)*

On revenge: "Do not say, 'I'll pay you back for this wrong!' Wait for the Lord, and he will deliver you."

On envy: "Do not fret because of evil men, or be envious of the wicked, for the evil man has no future hope and the lamp of the wicked will be snuffed out."

On thinking you are wise: "Do you see a man wise in his own eyes? There is more hope for a fool than for him."

On meddling: "Like one who seizes a dog by the ears is a passer-by who meddles in a quarrel not his own."

On seven things the Lord hates: "Haughty eyes, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises wicked schemes, feet that are quick to rush into evil, a false witness who pours out lies, and a man who stirs up dissension among brothers."

On rearing a child: "He who spares the rod hates his son, but he who loves him is careful to discipline him."

Two profound proverbs: "There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death."

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him and He will make your path straight."

I hope this short article will make you race to the Book of Proverbs and desire the wisdom it contains.

~ Pastor Rich

Our Grace Family Meet Dot Ryan

Dorothy (Dot) Ryan well remembers her "snowy" days, since she was born in Astoria, Long Island, New York. Now widowed, Dot smiles as she names her son, daughter, five grandchildren, and one great-grandbaby. She even smiles again when recalling her many years as church secretary in her church in New York because this job allowed her to get to know the church family more intimately. So, Linda and Joan, if you ever need a hand, you know where to look!

Her favorite foods are met in savoring Italian foods with "all kinds of pasta," and she truly enjoys eating at the Shrimp Dock. Dot is a quiet lady, so knowing that crocheting and reading rank among her favorite past times come as no shock. She has never forgotten wonderful walks along the shore at Jones Beach, Long Island, New York. She does not say much about this, but Dot is so faithful in keeping track of church members who just might like to get an encouraging call every now and then.

In 2010, her son took her to Oberammergau Passion Play, which is presented every ten years. And she also visited a little village, Bad Merlenthim, where her Mother was born in 1896! What a thrilling experience that had to have been. But even these "memory keepers" will not eradicate her wish to tour the USA to visit all the beautiful sights of our land. And since that probably is just a fond wish, Dot would gladly accept any monetary gift so that she might make donations to worthy causes.

Although these cannot rank among "valued possessions," Dot ranks her children and grandchildren as most "valued!" To sum up her life offerings, Dot states that "I have so much to be thankful for,---"especially that the Lord has watched over and sustained me over these many years!" I fully believe that when Dot meets her Savior, she will also hear Him say, "Well done, good and faithful servant!"



~ Pat Kopp

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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.

What's the SCORE? Chuck Christiansen knows!

Since his so-called retirement began in 1992, Chuck has volunteered his time in helping others get their businesses off the ground and running well. SCORE (Senior Corp of Retired Executives) is a non-profit association whose volunteer business people assist small business people solve business problems, in such areas as: developing business plans and marketing strategies, applying for business loans, staffing and human resource management, and creating sound financial and fiscal policies.



The work is supported by the US Small Business Administration (SBA). There are over 300 SCORE chapters across the United States, that has a network of 11,000 volunteers. Chuck donates his time through the Greater Knoxville Office. Over the past 25 years of such service to others, Chuck, and his wife Pauline (married 65 years), have traveled to 6 of the 7 continents (Asia, Africa, North America, South America, Australia, and Europe). He is currently working with no fewer than a total of 568 clients. He is in contact with 3 or 4 of them each day of the week, and with another 50 at least once per month. He says he has cut "way down" on his work load, from well over 80 hours/week, to now but just a "mere" 40 hours each week.

A few of the countries where small business owners have been mentored, counseled, and visited by Chuck are: Argentina, Brazil, China, Dubai, Egypt, England, Ireland, Macedonia, New Zealand, Netherlands, Nigeria, Scotland, and South Africa. Business owners in 49 of our 50 states have benefited from his advice as well.

What kind of business owners are currently being mentored by Chuck? Here are a few examples. There is a woman with hopes of training dogs to detect

very early signs of cancer in people (presently not medically detectable). She needed help financing and setting up such a business. A man needed advice on growing fields of lavender, a small aromatic shrub used in perfumery, and in medicine.

A high-tech company is developing an oil well drilling device with unique scanning/sensory capabilities that detects bedrock resistance, which in turn adjusts the speed of the drill to minimize wear on the drill. The help Chuck provided was on how to expand the markets for such advanced technology. A diverse set of clients? Yes, and this is just a small sample of the category of clients Chuck works with.

For these monumental efforts of volunteering thousands of hours of time, Chuck was nominated by his local SCORE chapter for a presidential citation (300 chapters were invited to nominate their volunteers). This June he was awarded **The President's Volunteer Service Award (Gold)**, and signed by the President. Word has it that there were only five of these given this year. Congratulations, Chuck, for setting an example of helping our neighbors wherever they live! You are truly that witness of Christ's love for all peoples of HIS creation. Well done, faithful servant.



September Scripture of the Month

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all you ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

~ Proverbs 3:5-6, NIV

Events to Look Forward to

Every Tuesday - Adult Inquiry Classes - 6:30-8:30 p.m.

September 1-3 - Grace Family Retreat - Fontana Village

September 5 - Seasoned Adults Meeting - 11:30 a.m.
Speaker: Channel 10 Meteorologist Todd Howell

September 9 - Free Legal Advice Clinic - 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

September 11 - Prayer Shawl Ministry Begins - 10:00 a.m.

September 16 - LWML Meeting - 9:30 a.m.

October 30 - Trunk or Treat - 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Watch your Sunday bulletin for more details about upcoming events.



HealthLine is a 30-minute Medical Education television show.

NEW AIR TIME: Thursday Evenings - 9:00 p.m.

STATIONS:

CTV COMCAST Cable Channel 12 (Knoxville)

CTV CHARTER 193 + WOW Channel 6 (Farragut)

AT&T U-Verse Channel 99

Stream for DISH or Direct: Go to CTVKNOX.org. Click on Icon and watch



SEPTEMBER 2017 SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND GUESTS

- 07 - Treatment of Shoulder Problems including Dog Bone Implant - Dr. Paul C. Brady (taped 10/12/16)
- 14 - Denial of Hypertension (High Blood Pressure) - Dr. Tom Anderson (taped 4/13/16)
- 21 - Carotid Artery Disease and Strokes - Dr. Deanna Nelson (taped 1/13/16)
- 28 - History of Cataract Surgery - Dr. Matthew D. Lowrance (taped 11/11/15)

Grace's own **Sheila Wittke** has recently retired after 38 years of hosting the HealthLine program. She has been such a blessing and has provided such a wonderful service to the community through this program. Repeats of previous shows will run through the remainder of 2017.

New Library Titles and Bible Studies

Fiction

Peace in the Valley by Jerry Eicher (Fic Eic): A new Amish fiction series. Titles include: **Silvia's Rose**, (book 1), **Phoebe's Gift**, (book 2), and **Mary's Home** (book 3).

The Amish of Hart County by Shelley Shepard Gray (Fic Gra). Another new Amish series set in Hart County, Kentucky. **Her Secret**, book 1, is a suspense-filled story about Hannah Hilty who leaves her Amish home to escape a threatening stalker. Hannah has a difficult time trusting anyone, even the kind Amish man next door. In book 2, **His Guilt**, Mark Fisher returns to Hart County after being wrongfully accused of assault. As Mark's life is getting back to normal, someone attacks a woman, and once again the community believes that Mark is guilty.

Over Maya Dead Body by Sandra Orchard (Fic Orc): Orchard continues the mysteries of Serena Jones with this third title in the series. Serena's FBI Art Crime Team investigates an antiquities smuggling. As the team works on Martha's Vineyard to solve the case and prevent another death, Serena must remain focused on the case despite the two men who have arrived on the island bringing romantic complications.

Beloved Hope by Tracie Peterson (Fic Pet): In book 2 of the **Heart of the Frontier** series, the three sisters, Grace, Mercy and Hope have survived the challenges along the Oregon Trail and found a safe haven in Oregon City. Hope's peace is shattered as she is called to testify in the trial of the leaders of the massacre of Whitman Mission. In **Cherished Mercy**, book 3, tragedy ignites hostility at the Rogue River Mission. Will Mercy's and missionary Adam's faith bring them through this disaster?

A Matter of Trust by Susan May Warren (Fic War): Gage Watson has joined the PEAK Rescue team. When he and his team are called upon to rescue the reckless brother of the woman who betrayed him and cost him his career, he has to put his emotions in check and concentrate on the rescue.

Non-Fiction

Under the Overpass: A Journey of Faith on the Streets of America by Mike Yankoski (305.5 Yan) Mike, like many others, wondered about the homeless people he encountered and what their lives were really like. But instead of just wondering, Mike and his friend Sam decided to live homeless. With only a backpack, sleeping bag and guitar, they set out to live on the streets of Denver, Washington D.C., San Francisco, Phoenix, and San Diego. For five months they experienced the depravity of their choice. They wanted to know if their faith was real or existed only because of

the comforts they had known in their upper-middle class homes. This is the chronicle of their homelessness and their Christian faith.

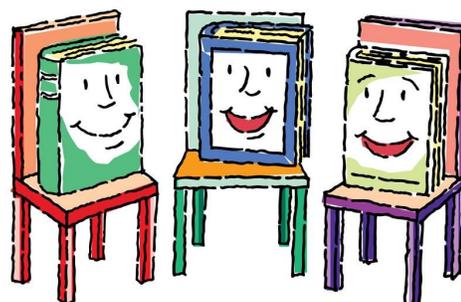
Bible Study Materials

Ideas for possible Bible studies and study materials are available in the library located in boxes on the uppermost shelves in the non-fiction and children's DVD sections. Studies range from in-depth investigations of various books of the Bible to topical studies such as baptism, miracles, and prophecy just to name a few. There are studies aimed at women, men, families or parents. Multiple copies of some studies such as **The Story** and **Everyday Life in Bible Times** and some others can also be borrowed. Those interested in a Beth Moore study will find the following kits complete with DVD, leader's guide and a participant guide : **Believing God**, **Daniel**, **James: Mercy Triumphs**, **Jesus the One and Only**, **Living Beyond Yourself**, **Stepping Up**, and **To Live Is Christ**. Also available in kits are Jennifer Rothchild's **Walking By Faith**, Michael Catt's **Honor Begins at Home: "Courageous" Bible Study**, and **So What Does It Mean? Catechism I and II**. To borrow any of the Bible study materials, simply write a note with the title of what was borrowed and when. Place the note in the check out box on the library table.

Find all these new materials on display on the cart in the library.

Luther quote on the gift of children: "Daily learn the article of divine creation by looking at your children and offspring, who stand before you....Here you may behold the providence of God, who created them out of nothing." (2004 Thrivent Financial Calendar)

~ Mary Schultz



A Shout-Out to Senior LWML Sisters from a Convention-Goer

By Patty Ross, National LWML President



I met several women in their 80's and 90's at the LWML 37th Biennial Convention last week in Albuquerque. Apparently, they are appreciated by others as much as they are appreciated by me! Serving in many different ways, big and small, they are saluted in this Facebook posting by Liz Russell of Kuna, Idaho. Enjoy!

Little Old Lutheran Ladies: some timid and proper, some out-spoken and opinionated, most of them grandmothers, many of them widows. This is what used to be the extent of what came to mind when I thought of this particular demographic. I ought to be familiar with the subject, as the church I attend has many in its congregation. After attending a bi-annual convention for an organization made up mostly of little old Lutheran women, I've been reflecting on the true identity of these exceptional women:

1. *The many Sunday school teachers I had as a child that gave me a solid foundation for my faith.*
2. *The 80-year old woman from my church that sends me a card on every holiday and has remembered my birthday every year I've been alive.*
3. *The various ladies that lean over in the pew just a bit when I go up to communion to see which ridiculous pair of shoes I'm wearing that week. "I was hoping you were wearing my favorite pair – those heels with the polka dots!"*
4. *The 90 year old woman that really isn't supposed to be driving, but made a trip from Meridian to the farm almost in New Plymouth by herself to visit my Mom after Dad died. "I wasn't sure I remembered how to get there, but I passed the old Cloverleaf restaurant and figured I was heading in the right direction, so I just kept driving!" Mom said she opened the door and couldn't have been more surprised to see her standing there.*
5. *The ladies in their pant suits or jacket/skirt combinations that love and compliment my crazy outfits instead of expressing disapproval.*
6. *The many widows of our congregation that make a special effort to check in with my Mom every week, and never shied away from the hard conversations and progressive bad news from her the past years.*
7. *The committee of women that provided and organized countless funeral dinners for families of the church with my Mom, free of charge.*
8. *The group of Lutheran women that formed a women's missionary league during World War II, a time when being charitable and spreading the gospel surely seemed of little importance to many.*
9. *That same group of Lutheran women who still give millions of dollars every two years to support many mission projects throughout the world.*
10. *The women who traveled to Albuquerque, NM this past week, despite many of them being poor in health, limited in their mobility, or facing tragedy and heartbreak in their home lives, to give yet more of their time to this group. I attended this convention, largely due to the suggestion of my sister. I was running through all the reasons I should be at home in Idaho instead of where I was when the event was starting. As the days progressed, I got the same lovely compliments and encouragement in my faith, but this time from Little Old Lutheran Ladies from all over the world.*

These women are to be admired and respected, not pitied or dismissed. I've realized through family discussion that my grandmother on my Mom's side (that I never met) fit this bill. I am watching as my Mom and her sisters become them. What an honor it would be to be one day included in the Little Old Lutheran Ladies Club.

What a blessing to hear stories like this. I hope you enjoyed it as much as I did.

Joyfully serving with you,
Patti



He is a
SHIELD
to those who take
refuge in
HIM.

PROVERBS 30:5

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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:

