



GraceNet

Knoxville, TN

October 2023

10 Things

This is my last article on the GraceNet as Senior Pastor (not that I won't write articles for it in the future). I want to praise our editor and dear friend, Debbie Booher. She has served in this capacity for 27 amazing years! Debbie is faithful, gifted, and an insightful Christian woman. She is an inspiration to me and many others. I want to thank you, Debbie, for correcting my numerous spelling and grammatical errors and laying out the GraceNet in such a pleasing format.

For this last article, I am suggesting 10 things that I am and have been striving for in my life. I am recommending them to you the reader as well. They are both values and action statements that lead to a godly life.

#1. Keep Jesus First

I endeavor to keep Jesus always in my consciousness. What would Jesus do? What would Jesus say? Frankly, there are many times this causes me guilt; but more often, this gives me peace, joy and strength. He is my Savior and Lord, and he deserves first place in my life.

#2. Find Your Special Way to Glorify God

This item goes to what your specific gifting and purpose is. As I enter retirement, I ask myself, how will I serve my God in this phase of my life. It will be in different ways, but there is no retirement in one's service to the Lord.

#3. Honor Your Family

God gives us our families, and they ought to be special to us. The commandment says, "Honor your Father and your Mother..." The Word tells us to love our spouse, respect and be faithful to them. It tells us that children are a gift from the Lord and we ought to raise them to know Him. I

am blessed with my family, and I will continue to treat them as that special gift God has given to me.

#4. Go to Church

Is the Lord Jesus worthy of worshipping every Sunday? Yes, He is! I've always loved the story of an old deaf man who attended a country church that had no one to sign. When asked why he continued to come, he said: "I don't want anyone to guess whose side I'm on!" Jesus deserves my praise and He will have it and especially on the Lord's Day.

#5. Read and Study the Bible

Hearing God speak to me through His Word is one of the greatest delights of my life. New and old truths, lessons, encouragement and strength come from the Word of God. We are in a war with the evil one, and we need the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God, if we will be victorious.

#6. Serve Your Fellow Church Members

It is no accident that you are at Grace. God has blessed you with a church family and presented you with an opportunity to serve one another. There are ministries for which to volunteer and Bible studies with which to grow and fellowship. Friendships take root and good deeds get done when we serve.

#7. Be Generous

"It is more blessed to give than to receive," is a truth that I have embraced. I want to use "His" money which has been lavished on me to help and bring joy to others. Generosity is a supreme Christian value. As we all know, you can't take it with you, so how much good can you do with what you have been given?



FROM OUR
PASTOR

(Continued on page 2)

10 Things (Continued)

#8. Pray About Everything

God is in total control, not us. He bids us to seek wisdom and direction from Him. Is there anything too small to bring to Him in prayer? I don't think so.

#9. Stay Humble

When I think of staying humble, two great Scripture passages come to mind. It says in Ephesians 2:8-9, "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works so that no one can boast." And from Philippians 2:3, "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves." I mean to apply these verses to my life.

#10. Help the Poor and Down and Out

When God has put me in the position to help the poor and disadvantaged whether here or overseas, I want to do my part. It is what Christians do.

~ Pastor Rich

Our Pastor's RETIREMENT

Save the Date!!!

Sunday, October 29, 10:00 a.m.
ONE SERVICE ONLY

**Pastor Rich's final sermon followed by a
Retirement Celebration.**
Time: 5:00 p.m.

Coffee or Lunch with Pastor Danny?

Pastor Danny would like to share a cup of coffee or meal with you—no strings attached! You can sign up to meet with Pastor Danny at:

<https://calendly.com/pastordannygraceknoxville/breakfast-lunch-meeting>

Grace Prayer Team Welcomes Requests

The Grace Prayer Team is constantly at work! If you have a prayer request that you would like prayed over by the Grace Prayer Team, we welcome your requests. Please contact **Kristin McGee** at kdmcgee08@gmail.com (865-384-9834) or **Ev Brown** (evbrown3@gmail.com (757-870-5603)). The request will then be passed on to the team. We continue to welcome Prayer Team members as well. If you are interested in praying for the needs submitted by our church family, please contact Kristin or Ev with your interest.



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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.



Dear Pastor Rich,

As you reach the milestone of retirement from 44 years of ministry, especially the last 30 years at Grace Lutheran Church, we want to thank you for the love, support, guidance, teaching, and nurturing that you have provided to our Grace family. The impact that you and our beloved Susie have made on this congregation and to the Kingdom of God is inexpressible and has blessed us all beyond measure. You have been a good and faithful servant of our Lord Jesus Christ!

We pray God's richest blessings on you as you start this new chapter in your life. We love you!

~Your Grace Family





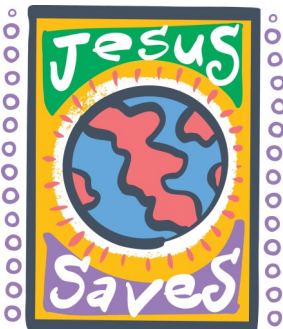
10/1	Bill Crain	10/13	Irene Holden
10/1	Barbara Laneman	10/14	Linda Hults
10/1	Trent Pyles	10/14	McKenzie McIlwain
10/1	Bob Strickland	10/14	Joretta Schneider
10/2	Michael McCay	10/16	Susan Heitner
10/2	Rylan Pyles	10/17	Steve Kreiss
10/3	David Hart	10/18	Pierce Herrin
10/3	Tom Schoenfelder	10/19	Byron Mahan
10/3	Jeanine Smith	10/20	Keith Denton
10/4	Ev Brown	10/20	Tisa Mees
10/4	Steve Krempasky	10/21	Cameron Smithey
10/4	Beverly Miller	10/22	Becky Hoag
10/4	Janet Schmitt	10/22	Alex Jones
10/6	Caroline Dreke	10/23	Don Cox
10/6	Ryan Dreke	10/23	Cate Turner
10/6	Phoebe Linnabary	10/26	Randy Bueckman
10/7	David Kabela	10/26	Jeanette Webster
10/8	Elizabeth Dreke	10/28	Benjamin Cole
10/8	Brenda Gaddis	10/28	Lexie Glisson
10/8	Susan Klemmer	10/28	Alexandra Howe
10/8	Stacy Maston	10/28	Pam Phillips
10/8	Pastor Steve Skov	10/28	Allen Smith
10/9	Olivia Dodson	10/29	Matthew Kothe
10/10	Alana Harter	10/29	Rosie Turner
10/10	Debra Rice	10/30	Daniel Hoag
10/11	Brittany Pafford	10/30	Marcie Strickland
10/11	Diane Verley	10/31	Keith Abraham
10/11	David Wade	10/31	David Ishee
10/12	Sheila Donnelly	10/31	Grace Pitcher
10/12	Larry Miller	10/31	Richard Wright
10/12	Pam Streufert		



10/2	Joe & Pam McGhee
10/2	John & Deborah Stegner
10/4	Richard & Linda Sturk (54)
10/6	Bryan & Jenny Payne
10/9	Tom & Ashley Cruise
10/10	Derek & Kaitlin Knoernschild
10/11	Douglas & Wendy Butzine
10/13	Steve & Carol Kreiss
10/14	Bruce & Barbara Collet (51)
10/14	Derek & Anna Wilson
10/15	Amy & Tim Baserman
10/17	Dale & Stacy Henderson
10/20	Dennis & Barbara Laneman
10/22	Al & Pam Streufert
10/27	Alan & Jennifer Bush
10/27	Russell & Shawna Hembree
10/28	Dale & Leona King (73)



Bible Quiz

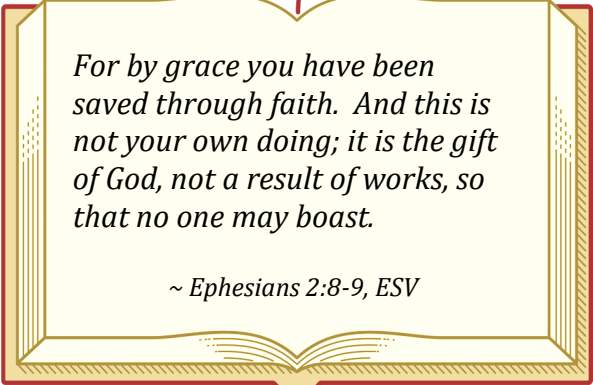


Not long before Jesus' arrest, he said: "I did not come to ___ the world, but to ___ the world." Fill in the blanks.

- A. judge; save
- B. hate; love
- C. condemn; teach
- D. disrupt; conform to

Answer: A (see John 12:47, NIV)

October Scripture of the Month



For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

~ Ephesians 2:8-9, ESV

October Children's Curriculum Themes

In an attempt to connect the adults and children of Grace just a bit more, I will be letting people know the theme and verse of the week in our children's Sunday school classes. I would love it if the adults would join in memorizing or at least talking about it to the children as they see each other in the halls. Listed below are the themes and scripture for October.

~ Frieda Guthrie

<i>DATE</i>	<i>THEME</i>	<i>VERSE</i>
October 1	God wants us to obey.	<i>Peter and the other apostles replied: "We must obey God rather than man." (Acts 5:29)</i>
October 8	We can count on God's promises.	<i>The Lord is faithful to all His promises and loving toward all He has made. (Psalm 145:13)</i>
October 15	We put God first.	<i>Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. (Deuteronomy 6:5)</i>
October 22	We can always trust God.	<i>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 paths straight. (Proverbs 3:5-6)</i>
October 29	God wants us to put others first.	<i>Do to others as you would have them do to you. (Luke 6:31)</i>



Operation Christmas Child

Tis the Operation Christmas Child season! Join us in this opportunity to share the spirit of Christmas with children around the world who would not otherwise receive gifts. ***This year we have a goal of filling 400 shoeboxes from our Grace family. We can do this!!*** Please consider filling a shoebox to bless a child. If you don't want to fill the box yourself, you can contribute funds for a box and we'll fill it for you. If you don't know what to put in a box, there's information in the Children's wing on suggestions for items. If you have questions, please don't hesitate to contact Frieda Guthrie at childrensmin@visitgrace.org or Paul Guthrie at pgvint3@gmail.com.



New Church Pictorial Directory!

A pictorial directory is a powerful tool in our church to help each of us know each other better. Please make an appointment to have your picture taken **November 1-4** at the church.

Use the link, on our website at visitgrace.org to register or visit the Welcome Desk in the Family Life Center lobby for assistance on Sundays from 9-11 a.m.

Every family photographed will receive a free directory and an 8x10" portrait. You will have the opportunity to purchase additional portraits at the time of photography. Please sign-up today!



SAVE THE DATE

Make your appointment to be included in the new pictorial directory!

Grace Lutheran Church
Knoxville, TN

Photo dates: Nov. 1 - 4, 2023

Remember CHURCH DIRECTORIES



Lutheran Women in Mission

Celebrate **LWML Sunday** with all the ladies of Grace by bringing your **MITES** on **October 1** to help reach the new and largest LWML goal just set for 2023-2025 in the amount of \$2,350,000! Yes, our donations add up to over \$2 million when gathered together with all of our Missouri Synod churches! The recipients of these funds will be featured on the first Sunday of each month with a video presentation.

On **October 6-8** many of our ladies will be meeting together at Eagle Rock Camp to experience the program, **"For Such a Time as This"** and enjoy the view of the mountains with other LWML ladies from East Tennessee.

Plan ahead and mark your calendars now for our December Program at Grace featuring the local Christian drama group, **WordPlayers'**, performance of **"West of Bethlehem"** on **Saturday, December 9** in the Family Life center at **1:00 p.m.** We want to especially invite members of Grace who celebrate 80+ birthdays and all Grace families.

Watch for more information in the worship service bulletins!

Stroke Alert!!

Dear Grace Family,

I recently had a strange medical event that I want you to be informed about so you will know what to do should it happen to you. I awoke on Sunday morning with a paralyzed right leg and a numb right pinkie finger. I thought I must have pinched a nerve and continued getting ready for church. I checked the usual signs of stroke: even smile, could roll my tongue, no slurred speech, normal cognitive function. All seemed well. But the numbness and leg paralysis continued. I called my doctor and he informed me that paralysis on one side of the body is also a sign of stroke. He advised me to go to the ER immediately. Tests showed that it was, indeed, a small stroke on the lower left part of my brain, an area directly linked to the right leg. I thank God that I am expected to get a full recovery. Not recognizing the signs could have been disastrous.

If you experience paralysis on one side of the body, go immediately to the ER. UT Hospital is a comprehensive stroke facility. Treatment within the hour is essential.

Love and blessings to you all through Christ our LORD! Chris McCay

Mission for Christ Network (MCN)

Mission of Christ Network Mission Partners Ruth and Lyman Stone and family serve with Ascension Lutheran Church in Montreal, Canada. The Parc Extension neighborhood where Ascension is located is home to a large immigrant and refugee population, and Ascension seeks to reach out to these newly arrived neighbors with the Gospel. Ruth and Lyman host events and classes to build bridges between the community and the church, inviting all who are interested to hear the Gospel, experience the love of Christ, and find new citizenship in God's Kingdom.

Quebec as a province is a post-Christian culture, with only about 4% of people attending church monthly and only 1/3 of people saying religion is important to them. Montreal is considered one of the most secular cities in North America. But the neighborhood where our mission partners serve, Parx-Ex, is very different with a heavily Hindu and Sikh population, most of whom have had very little exposure to the Gospel.

Ruth and Lyman build relationships in the community in many ways:

- Beginning ESL classes draw immigrant neighbors into conversation with Christian volunteers. 62 people completed their spring beginner English class covering topics such as the weather and submitting RSVPs – and studying the promises of Psalm 23!
- Ascension hosts Open House events inviting neighborhood social service groups to present about the assistance they offer while also allowing the church to meet their neighbors and invite them to worship.
- Lyman taught a Christian Foundations of Canadian Holidays class which offered refugee and immigrant neighbors a chance to learn about Canadian culture through the lens of learning why these days are so important – and the class wrapped up just as Holy Week began, allowing them to invite his students to return.
- Ruth leads mommy-baby play groups that allow her and her daughters to meet other mothers and children and share the Gospel with them both directly through Bible story teaching and indirectly through relationship-building, encouragement, and conversation.

This fall Mission of Christ Network will be sending two new mission partners to serve with Ascension in Montreal – Kayla Gundermann (recent graduate of Concordia St. Paul) and Anna Benter (deaconess intern from Concordia Chicago). Go to missionofchrist.org/mission-partners/ to learn more about these two new missionaries and how you can support them in ministry!

And think and pray about how you and Grace Lutheran Church can continue to build relational bridges into your community for sharing the Gospel, too!



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9076 Middlebrook Pike
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(865) 691-2823
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)

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

TO:



Connect ~ Grow ~ Serve

Trunk *or* Treat



October 31, 2023—5:00-7:00 p.m.

This is one of our largest community outreach events. We are now collecting candy and specialty items: gluten/nut/sugar-free snacks and candy. You may also make a monetary donation to help purchase other items. Contact Freida for more information at childrensmin@visitgrace.org