

NOVEMBER 2019

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[not the] editor's note Tarryl Bockelman

If you're like many Christians, you've struggled to be disciplined in prayer. We've complied a short list of resources that have really helped some of our Grace staff.

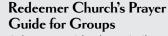
Over the past few months, God has been moving more and more people at Grace to lean into the discipline of prayer. As we face challenges in our personal lives and in the church body as a whole, we are moved to pray because we see God and ourselves as we truly are. When we see the work of God, we are moved to praise. When we see God's grace, we give thanks. When we truly see our sin, we are moved to confession. And when we see our personal need, we cry out in supplication.

In coming editions of the Insider, we will dedicate space to challenge and encourage the body at Grace to join this collective movement of prayer as we lift up the needs of the congregation and leadership in praise, thanksgiving, confession and supplication. Look for teaching points and prayer requests every month as we seek to make prayer the foundation of every ministry at Grace.

Praying the Bible by Donald Whitney

A game changer. Simple enough to be used daily, while using the Psalms to keep prayer new and fresh year after year.

Saturate Prayer Guide Short cliff notes covering many angles of prayer: praise, waiting, confession, intercession, thanksgiving and more.



A longer guide, but similar in content to the Saturate guide.



Praying the Names of God by Ann Spangler Learning who God is and praying likewise, fulfilling Philippians 4:8.





John and Lorna Abrahamse are our Field Staff in South Africa. They run an organization called J-Life that is working to reach into each country in Africa and focuses on youth.

The really exciting fresh off the press news is that on Monday, October 7, 2019 Jamie became an Abrahamse! They've been working towards adopting the little guy for a while and it's finally come to fruition. They're overjoyed and thrilled that court runs are over now.

In other news, they've asked for prayers for Jordan (far right) who is in her last year of high school and is working towards making decisions about continuing in post-secondary education or taking a year to work hands on with a ministry.

The Abrahamse's have also requested prayer for several of their country leaders (you can check out the J-Life spread over Africa at jlife.org).



A new member of the Abrahamse Family!

First on the list is Burkina Faso where they are still trying to establish leaders and a leading team. Also for Niger, where they are still in the pioneering phase but have Anani leading the charge. Pray for his family as well.

In Mali we're praying that Moise would have success in developing a team of leaders and that God would open the resources up for their ministry in Mali.

In the lvory Coast, please pray for Arsene and family, pray that God would increase their influence across churches.

In Benin, pray for Frank, his wife and new baby as they transition into becoming full directors of their country. Pray for team unity as it is always more turbulent in times of leadership transition.

In Togo pray for Ben as he seeks the Lord for restoration and energy. Pray for his wife and their marriage.

Finally in Guinea, pray that Tite would find a good replacement for himself and that the work would continue in vision and in leadership.



NOVEMBER 3 a haiku so you remember what to do...

A magical hour Extra sleep Sunday morning Clocks an hour back

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT





Families host or co-host a lite Thanksgiving dinner at home and then all the families that are participating come together at Parkview Church's Central Campus on Foster Road for the dessert course.

The dessert course is the dessert portion of your Thanksgiving meal. It's also an opportunity to hear Pastor Brooks explain the difference between the origin of Thanksgiving and how Americans celebrate it today.

Check menus and more at graceb3.org/thanksgiving

Can't host? Bake! We need folks to provide desserts

desserts for the second half of the evening.

Redeemed



Christmas Eve Services

God's gift

Our 2019 Christmas services will be at 1, 3 and 5 PM on Tuesday December 24. We'll also be live streaming our 1 PM service. Through the Advent season we'll be working through John 1.

John 1:1-5

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that



John 1:1-5 cont'd has been made. In was life, and that

has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not ovecome it.

Christmas Details

For more details and FAQ on our Christmas Eve services please visit graceb3.org/christmas







Meet Carrie Wolford, she's using her talent to serve the Grace Student Ministry

Carrie Wolford has been coming to Grace for nine years and is currently in the process of becoming a member. Carrie married Matt in 2014 and they had their first baby, Arthur in 2018. Carrie says that she married into a family of pilots (even her mother-in-law flies) and she's now caught the passion for aviation too. Right now Carrie is blessed to be a full-time mom and she loves it.

Carrie and Matt also serve in the Student Ministry (junior high and high school) at Grace. Carrie says, "I am passionate about high school ministry! My high school years were incredibly difficult but I have experienced God bringing beauty from ashes as I walk alongside young women going through similar struggles. I have been called to this ministry and I adore it."

Carrie first landed at Grace as a freshman at the University of Iowa when a bunch of her

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Cru friends were also coming to Grace. She says, "At first the atmosphere reminded me of the church I arew up in and was comfortable. However, the depth and richness of the teaching inspired me and captivated my heart. I had never heard the gospel taught with such passion every week! It was the emphasis on the gospel and the growth that I have experienced because of it that made me choose to make Grace Community Church my home."

Carrie is currently leading a table discussion at our Women's Bible Study on Genesis and also attends MOPS. She also loves crafting, multi-tasking (she's always juggling a few craft projects at once), and now aviation. Thank you, Carrie, for serving our high school students. Mentors and role models make a big difference for high school gals, and we thank God that you've answered that call in your life!



We believe that serving is one of the most effective ways for us to honor God and develop spiritually. The students in the Student Ministry have recently filled out serve interest forms to match them up with the areas they might be most talented and best suited for.

We also want our students to see adult leaders out front leading by serving. A specific request of the Student Ministry is for female life group leaders on Wednesday nights. If that's you, let us know at...



graceb3.org/serve19



Pastor Steve Scheperle

The Story of God sermon series is an eight week series aimed to help us grasp the central message of the Bible. We've covered a lot of ground in just four sermons so far:

1) how God created us with purpose to be His image bearers and bring His goodness into the world.

2) how humans rebelled and failed to bear God's image and instead introduced sin, pain, suffering, and death into the world.

3) how God graciously promised deliverance through His covenant with Abraham.

While eight weeks might seem like a longtime, it is actually quite short, especially for a series on the Story of God! One of our goals in this series is to equip people to be able to see the primary thread that is woven throughout the entire fabric of Scripture. But to accomplish this in eight weeks has left some portions of the Bible relatively untouched. Some of you might wonder, "How am I supposed to read Leviticus where God gives Israel all these laws? What part do those laws play in the story of God?" Others might wonder "What about all these prophetic books? The prophets keep telling Israel that God will bless them if they turn from their sin. Are these books largely telling us that if individuals or nations turn to God they will experience material blessing?" Here, we want to give some very quick but yet important suggestions for how to read some sections of the Old Testament.

BOOKS OF LAW like Exodus, Leviticus, and Deuteronomy include lengthy sections describing the laws God gave Israel. In Luke

24:25-27 Jesus made it clear that all the Old Testament, including the law of Moses, pointed forward to Him. So when reading the law, a primary question to ask is, "How does the law foreshadow Christ and find its fulfillment in Christ?" The law revealed God's demand for holiness, which is only satisfied in Christ. The tabernacle and the temple were places where God would dwell with His people. As God lived among Israel, He would not only bless them but use them as an instrument of blessing beyond Israel's borders. And yet, to enjoy the presence of a holy God required that His people be holy, whether morally or ritually, (though the ritual elements of the law often pointed to a deeper need for moral and spiritual purity). The many sacrifices highlighted the need to cleanse oneself from sin to enjoy God's ongoing presence.

Yet, the sheer repetitive nature of sacrifices already hinted at their insufficiency to once and for all deal with sin. Each sacrifice pointed forward to Christ's lasting sacrifice on the cross (Hebrews 10:11-14).

The law is a mirror, showing us our need for Christ

When we read the law, we see not only God's standard for righteousness and holiness, but we also see our shortcomings, the ways in which we fail to fulfill the law completely. As Augustine wrote in the early years of the church, "the law bids us, as we try to fulfill its requirements, and become wearied in our weakness under it, to know how to ask the help of grace."

Thus, the Old Testament laws constantly foreshadowed Jesus,

the one who would fulfill the law, and then die to save and redeem humanity who could not fulfill or keep the law.

BOOKS OF HISTORICAL NARRATIVE, like Joshua, Judges, and First and

Second Kings provide narratives of Israel's history. At times, we might be tempted to read these as moral handbooks: how to enjoy God's blessings by following the example of human moral role models. But these books seem to be doing something different in the overall story of God's work.

Historical books further illustrate human sinfulness

Just after God gave Israel the law in Deuteronomy, God told Moses that Israel would not live faithfully to the law or God's covenant (Deuteronomy 31). Historical books often help to fill out this picture as they describe Israel's checkered history of wandering in and out of faithfulness to God. Israel would need a better king and priest than those who served over Israel, and this foreshadows Christ, the true king and true high priest over Israel!

Historical books also illustrate God's faithfulness

Though Israel repeatedly proved unfaithful, God never failed to restore Israel, to keep His covenant with His people, and to ensure that a faithful remnant remained through whom He would bring Jesus, the only one able to save God's people from their sin.

BOOKS OF PROPHECY such as Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Amos, describe God repeatedly calling unfaithful and wicked Israel to repent of their sin. Within God's ongoing story of redemption, these books reveal some important elements.

Prophetic books illustrate God's patience

Before God brought Israel to justice, He gave them clear warnings and chances to turn from their wicked ways. Though Israel was frequently unfaithful, God proved patient with them, even in their sin.

Prophetic books also illustrate God's justice

While God is slow to anger, He will not permit unrighteousness and injustice to persist endlessly. When Israel failed to repent, God eventually brought their wickedness to an end.

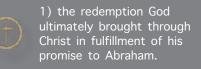
Prophetic books highlight hope in Christ

But these books ultimately teach that the God of Israel will not fail to fulfill His gracious covenantal promise to Israel. For example, in the book of Isaiah,



amidst God's warnings to Israel of looming judgment and impending exile, God foreshadows the ultimate renewal and redemption of Israel through a suffering servant, the promised Messiah! These tips are far from exhaustive. We hope you find them helpful, just as we pray that God makes the remainder of this sermon series helpful.

In November, we look forward to sermons on:



2) the rich and powerful
 community God creates
 out of those who believe in
 Christ.

3) the consummation of all things, when Christ returns to usher us into the new heavens and new earth.

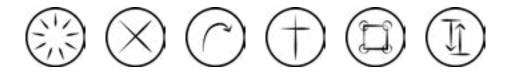
For more resources on reading the Bible go to

graceb3.org/read

and you can get tools like "Seeing Jesus in the Old Testament" for particular help with books of the law, historical narrative and prophecy at

graceb3.org/toolbar

Group Guide Intro



Fun fact about them thar icons for the Story of God series: They were made simple yet distinct so that you could draw them on a napkin, even if you have no sketching chops whatsoever.

We did this because we want you to use them. On napkins. Down the side of your Venti Latte. In crayon on the kids coloring menu.

The story is meant to be told. It's why we are still here, and why God doesn't just snatch you up from the face of the earth after you've become His son or daughter. You're here to bring Him glory by telling His story. So we're hoping the icons help and if you happen to be a freehanding picaso, go for it!



Redemption



Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Matthew 28:5-6

on your own...

0ne

Study John 19 and 20. Mark notes with emotional energy (like kinship terms, "father" "son" or words like "plead"). Consider the dialogue in these chapters: what do the words spoken by characters reveal about their current heart state? (Read Matthew 15:18).

Turo

Read the devotional materials provided on the next page.

Three

Take time to listen to another member's story with Jesus as the hero.

in groups...

Four

What is God's mission? What is a "foretaste of the kingdom"? How did Jesus give the people a fore-taste of the kingdom? Why is the death and resurrection significant?

God keeps His word! He promised redemption and He delivers! Jesus has been the promised one from back in the garden, the serpent crusher. He is the perfect sacrifice, the lamb of God, bringing fulfillment to the old way of sacrifice. He is the temple, God with men. He is the deliverer of His people, the perfect King who will lead His people in righteousness. He is God in the flesh. who came to live the perfect life that we could not, to take upon Himself our sins, to pay their penalty once and for all so we could have a new heart, pure and able to live righteously and boldy in this present age.

OUR LIVING HOPE Jesus is the exact representation of the image of God and came to save and redeem us for God's glory and our good. John 19:28-30 takes us to the cross where Jesus make His sacrifice on our behalf, bearing God's wrath for sin upon Himself. In John 20 we come to an empty tomb where fulfillment is guarenteed for the salvation of many. Jesus is our living hope. In 2 Corinthians 5:17-21 we are

told by the apostle Paul that Jesus is our redeemer and that for those that place their faith in Christ, He makes them a new creation, and they are reconciled to God and given a new identity in Christ.

There is a lot there to celebrate! If you have recieved Christ, take time to read the passages of



scripture in this devotion and meditate and celebrate what Christ has done for vou. Meditate on how this change in the Story of God is a big change, how it is just a sliver of a foretaste of what's next. Share with your family or friends things that you are celebrating since Christ has given you a new heart and reconciled you to Himself. If you have not

recieved Christ, why not? Is it intellectual questions, emotional questions, or have you just been rejecting His call because you want to be the king of your world? If you have not trusted Christ, then you are still dead in your sin and separated from God. Why not give Him your questions, your emo-

tions, your hang ups, your sin and rebellion today and ask Him to forgive you and take a step of faith and receive Him as your Lord and Savior. If you have questions, go this week to your community group leader, a trusted Christian friend or leaders at Grace and ask them your questions about Jesus.



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Community



But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Ierusalem and in all Iudea, and Samaria, and to the end, of the earth.

Acts 1:8

on your own...

0ne

Study Matthew 28:16-20 and Acts 1 & 2. Take special note of lists and locations. What's being listed? Where are people going? Why does it matter?

Turo

Read the devotional materials provided on the next page.

in groups...

Three

Take time to listen to another member's story with Jesus as the hero.

Four

Talk about your personal notes and study of the texts. What is the mission of the church? How does the church give the world a "foretaste of the kingdom"? What is our place in this act of God's story? God created us for His glory and His purposes. He has saved us for His glory for His purpose. He not only has given new hearts to those who have trusted Him to be their Savior. but He has called us to be family. He calls us a "chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation and people for his own possession" (I Peter 2:9) Why? So we can proclaim His

AMBASSADORS FOR CHRIST In 2 Cor. 5:11-21 we are called ambassadors for Christ and ministers of reconciliation.

excellencies.

How amazing that God reconciles us to Himself, brings us together as a family to experience together the goodness and faithfulness of God. As the family of God, we are called to demonstrate the excellencies of God to one another daily, to talk about the character, actions, and promises of God as a daily part of our

communication with one another and to do it in word and action. We are to be ambassadors for Christ: to each other first, building each other up, encouraging one another, serving one another. Then as a



family, we are called by God to be a demonstration of His goodness to our neighbors, friends, family and the world. We demonstrate His love by our words and actions. As a child of God and living in the family of God, your role is to be a minister of reconciliation to everyone you come into contact with. All of life is a ministry. Wherever God has you this very moment you are a new creation, part of a new family, with a new mission to live for God and loving others instead of living for yourself (which is a dead end).

QUESTIONS

As you read the passages of Scripture this week, what excites you about being a part of the family of God? What causes some fear or trepidation? What does it look like for you to be an ambassador of God in your neighborhood or workplace? How are you demonstrating God's love

to those you come into contact with on a daily basis?



Consummation



The Spirit and) the bride say, 'Come." And) let the one who hears say, 'Come." And) let the one who is thirsty come: let the one who desires take the water of life without price.

Revelation 22:17

on your own...

0ne

Study Revelation 21 and 22. Journal things you are learning about the consummation and about heaven. Often in scripture we see different passages beginning and ending in a similar way. As this is the end of the Bible we want to look back at the beginning and look for similarities of how God began and is tying up the story.

Turo

Read the devotional materials provided on the next page.

in groups...

Three

Take time to listen to another member's story with Jesus as the hero.

Four

In Genesis two trees in the garden of Eden were mentioned; in Revelation there's just one tree mentioned in the new heaven and new earth. Which tree is missing? Why? What excites you about the end of the story? Celebrate those truths. God redeeming us to live with Him forever in the new heaven and new earth-Incredible! I remember being a kid and wondering what heaven would be like. I had lots of imagination about what it would be. It was similar to the Newsboys song "Big House." Heaven would be "a big house," with a big table, lots and lots of food, and big yard where we could play football." I also re-

member thinking about heaven simply being us sitting on clouds and plucking harps all day long like a bunch of little Casper the ghost. Don't ask where that came from. Who knows? I do bet though that as you read this, you have your

own questions about heaven and when Jesus comes back and what life



will be like.

As I have grown in my understanding of God and heaven, I can't wait to get there. My heart was made for heaven. I have come to realize that there is something so much more glorious that awaits us than plucking harps upon a cumulus nimbus.

JUST A TASTE

In Revelation 5, 21, and 22 we get insight into what Heaven will be like.

will be gone, brokenness will be replaced with wholeness and our broken down aging bodies will be like Christ's resurrected body, according to 1 Corinthians 15.

It is going to be a place to love and to be loved and it is going to be a place where we celebrate the Savior and demonstrate His love to one another forever. The consummation is described



There are many glorious word pictures of what Heaven will be like. These passages tell us what will be there and what won't too. One thing for sure is that our ultimate treasure, Jesus, will be there. He is the treasure of Heaven. For those that have placed their faith in Christ, we will live forever with Him in the Garden-of-Eden like state, in perfection where the presence of sin as a feast, a party, a wedding. We think of weddings as beginnings of chapters and this one will be the end of an era where evil ruled. The wedding will mark the time of the King as He comes together with His bride and all the change in life that will flow out of that gloriously new season.

Series Wrap Up... Just the beginning



And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted) to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself. Luke 24:27

on your own...

0ne

Read Luke 24:13-35. What questions are asked and how are they answered in the course of conversation in this text?

Tulo

Read the devotional materials provided on the next page.

Three

Take time to listen to another member's story with Jesus as the hero.

in groups...

Four

What question and answer pairing was the most striking to you? Did you find any questions unanswered? What does it mean that their eyes were opened? Does that mean literally they were walking with their eyes shut? Or can we read it *literately*? How can we ask God to open our eyes to see Him in and through all of Scripture and working in our daily (sometimes mundane) lives?

As a Christian, a child of God, an ambassador for God, we have a story to tell. We have God's story to tell to the world. From Creation to Consummation the world needs to know God's love and redemption plan for them. We also have another story to tell-our own story. Our story is about how God

called us personally to Himself. what our life was like before we received Christ, how we received Christ and how Christ is making a difference in our lives today as we live in fellowship with Him, as He dwells within us.

STORIES HAVE STAYING POWER These stories are powerful and God uses them to bring others to a saving knowledge of Him. Even in the darkest nights of the soul, through deep suffering and loss, tragedy and trial, God has

stories with. They help

people when they feel

like they're all alone in

their struggle with sin

and suffering.

stories. in mind to bring comfort and kindredness to those we share our

not the star of the show, nor is our sin or former life the central focus, but rather Jesus is the

Paul in Acts 26 gave his life story to King Agrippa when he was on trial. Paul recounted to King Agrippa who he was before he met Christ. He also told the king how he came to Christ and trusted Jesus with his life and then how Christ was dwelling in him and using

him now. This is a good model for us in how we write our stories and tell our

What is important to note about our story is that we are star of our show,

our story. We are a player in God's redemptive story and our story is about how our story and God's story intersect. He is the star. He is the point of the story. He is our Savior and Lord.

Read Acts 26 where Paul shared his story with a king then work on your story. Your story should include a before-Christ time. meeting Christ and what your life is like now with Christ. If you haven't trusted Christ yet, maybe today is the day your story intersects with Christ's story.

Will vou receive Him todav?

T

Sheet Music commentary by zack stanton



There are many types of songs that we sing as part of our diet of corporate worshipsongs of praise, songs of confession, songs that remind us of the story of the gospel, songs that look forward to the hope of eternity with our Savior, and many nuances in between. No song can say it all, so we try to be mindful of what types of songs we need as we add new ones to the mix. Our new song for this month, Worthy, Worthy, gives us the opportunity to sing about several beautiful and

powerful truths. The song is about God's holy, infinite nature, and his worthiness of our worship. It reminds us that no words or songs are adequate to declare his glory. It is a call for all creation to join together in praise of its creator. And its final verse looks forward to the new heavens and new earth where we will be in God's physical presence, worshiping together forever. We hope that singing this song will be an encouraging reminder of God's holiness and of the eternal hope we have in him!





clouds Where we will stand and sing for-ev-er-more the hon-or and the praise, the glo-ry is the Lord's! $to \ chorus$

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PASTOR OF FAMILY MINISTRY AND BIBLICAL COUNSELING 2009 since at Grace

EQUIPPING THE SAINTS

OF GOD FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

Juggling. That's metaphorically one of Dave's special talents.

by Chelsy Reed

Pastor Dave Kirk spent 13 years in St. Louis, but he grew up in Northwest Indiana. He has been married to his beautiful wife Debbie for more than two decades. They have five amazing children: four sons (David, Ben, Josh and Noah) and one daughter (Abigail). Dave has been in full-time ministry for over 25 years as a Youth & Family Pastor and has earned two Masters degrees from Liberty University. In 2017, Dave also joined the ranks of the Association of Certified Biblical Counselors (ACBC).

He joined our staff in 2009 as our Family Ministries and Biblical Counseling Pastor. He co-leads the counseling ministry at Grace with Pastor Jason Blackley, often assisted by Aimee Marino, his administrative assistant. He also is part of the Equip Team, which organizes

Thrive classes, and other discipleship ministries. Recently, he's also been working with Pastor Dan Bovenmyer and me to write the group curriculum for the Insider. Dave is also cofounder of the Eastern Iowa Biblical Counseling Coalition (EIBCC).

Dave is a huge sports fan and roots for the team that he dubs best, the St. Louis Cardinals. He was an assistant golf professional at a golf course in Virginia while in college. Just in case you're wondering (I had to ask), that means managing the course, clubhouse staff and competing in club tournaments. He also enjoys reading (and does a lot) and listening to good rock music. He is very passionate about leading, teaching, coaching, and helping other up and coming leaders and teachers thrive (for which we're all really grateful).

Thrive Spring Semester CLASSES BEGIN JANUARY 12





new! A Survivor's Guide To Parenting Teenagers

> **Toolbar** A 4-week course on studying the bible

Systematic Theology (continuing from fall)







CLASSES AT 9:30 AM

- new! The Reality of God: A Crash Course in Apologetics
- new! Jesus in Your Day to Day

new! Preparing for Marriage

Biblical Soul Care (continuing from fall)



CLASSES AT 11 AM

Counsel from the Cross

All Thrive classes are held at Heritage Christian School just down Dubuque in North Liberty at 255 Hackberry St.

Learn more and register online at

graceb3.org/thrive



Treasure



One of the goals of Momentum (not the preeminent one or the primary one, but still one of them) is to make a plan for a larger facility on the North Liberty Campus.

Because of this many people have thought, "Oh, so it's a building campaign." Some of those people have been staff, some group leaders, some new folks. When we're talking about architects and contractors, the evidence certainly suggests building campaign. But that's not the point. A building is an outcome. The real campaign that's happening is about people not about a building.

Last year around this time we were considering a piece of land to our west. Just in case you missed the building update meetings and the Insider updates the Elders have written a letter describing the altered course of our building plans from 2018 to 2019 (and where it looks like we're headed for 2020.) You can read that letter at:

graceb3.org/momentum

Back to the space issue... We've launched church plants (other smaller inns in more distant locations) but that still leaves us with not enough room to serve our right here, right now community. The inn must expand. We cannot turn away sons and daughters of the King because of a parking issue any longer.

But it's not just about the folks that we'd like to welcome in anew. It's about you. You reading this right now. You see, it's been talked about various times on Sundays that we have been sparse with our teaching on what the Bible has to say about how followers of Christ handle money. We talk about prayer, sexual sin, living missionally and many other discipleship topics like it's nobody's business. However, we talk a lot less about money than Jesus did. We're changing that, and will continue to bring the topic before the church because we desire to remain faithful to biblical truth.

While preaching on 2 Cor. 5:14 in September, Pastor Jason was explaining the odd word in this verse, "controls." It certainly feels weird; no one likes being controlled by anything. As he added color to the phrase (which most translations render differently from each other) he got down to the original substance of the phrase. In essense this phrase means, "lays claim to." If the love of Christ lays claim to our lives, don't you think that God is after every aspect of our lives? Jesus was kinda an all or nothing guy.

As we near the end of our Story of God series, we are praying that God would show you how Momentum is really for you, and for others like you, who've been called by God. For the sake of those made in His image we charge forth!

November 24 will be an opportunity to change any previous commitments you've made or make new ones if you haven't made a commitment yet. We want to give you every opportunity to be whole disciples of Christ. Not partially, but with all of your heart, soul, mind and strength.



Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King; Let every heart prepare Him room...

times of november



Let's Do Dinner | Downtown Campus

Nov. $10 \mid$ Stick around after service for some food and fellowship. Feel free to bring a friend to join us for the meal as we connect with one another.

Nov 24 | Join us for a traditional American Thanksgiving Dinner after service. We will take a moment to give thanks for what has occurred this year. Please feel free to bring a friend to join us.



Daddy Daughter Dance | Sock Hop

Nov. 15 | Dads and daughters (ages 7+) gather at Grace North Liberty for the annual Daddy Daughter Dance. We'll have fine dining, dancing, crafts and listen to a special message. graceb3.org/ddd



Operation Christmas Child

Nov. 15 I Join others in a fun and easy way to reach children around the world with love of Jesus Christ! Pick up a shoebox in the North Liberty foyer and fill it with small gifts for children in dire circumstances. Drop off your filled shoeboxes on November 15 and 22.



Getting to Know Grace | North Liberty

Dec. 1 | Join us at Getting to Know Grace to hear God's story, learn Grace's story and share your story. This is a great starting point to get connected and plugged in at Grace. At 11 AM, Children are welcome to attend (classes up to 4th grade are available).



GRACE MEMBERSHIP CLASS

November 10 at 9:30 AM

If you've attended Grace for six months or more and you're ready to take the next step of commitment, consider attending our Membership Class. graceb3.org/membership



The Rise of Desktalkers NEW STAFF STORIES

In the most recent season at Grace we've had three new hires! We'd like to reveal them now and give you an idea of the people God has blessed our team with!

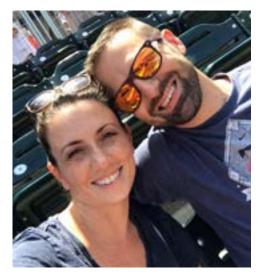






Zahk Xalyrion Facilities Coordinator

Zahktuthal Xalyrion has been inclined towards serving ever since meeting Jesus in 2017. He serves with out technology team running a camera for Sundays and Safety and Security on the Downtown Campus. In his new role he's also the head of the Coffee Team on the North Liberty Campus. Zahk and Angelica got married in 2017, and through his wife he has a son named Asher. Zahk is deeply enjoys about Star Wars, photography, video and board games and has a tidy collection of Nerf guns.



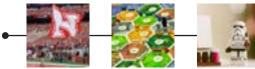


Jacob Varvel Communications Director

Jacob's been a storyteller since 2007 and has worked in numerous industries including higher ed, retail, and most recently software development. A transplant from Nebraska (Go Big Red!) Jacob and Linda have two children, Quinn and Isaac (on right). Jacob loves hipster board games-think Catan, Ticket to Ride, Carcassonne, and Codenames—all things science fiction, movie scores, and craft beer. The Varvels have been a part of Grace Community since 2011, and Grace Downtown since 2013.

Amanda Chidister Preschool Coordinator

Amanda and husband Peter have been attending Grace since 2005 with a 5-year gap for a move to Memphis, TN and back. Amanda took over our Preschool Coordinator role on staff as a temp thing, but has now officially joined us for the long haul. She enjoys photography, Christmastime and baking when she's got swing time parenting their four kiddos: Abbie, Olivia, Savannah and Jack. They also have one cat, Calla, who is apparently a weirdo.









Grace Community Church graceb3.org • graceb3 app (319) 626.2040 2707 Dubuque St NE North Liberty, IA

Old Brick Church 26 E Market St • Iowa City, IA

> SUNDAY SERVICES North Liberty 8, 9:30, & 11 AM & Downtown Iowa City 5 PM

from left to right, top to bottom Talent, Holly Smigel, Music Ministry Victoria Mueller, Downtown Administrative Assistant Field Staff Pearl & Alan Bourne, South East Asia



