



# Tidings

## “IT TAKES GRACE...”

### GREAT BANQUET WEEK ENDS IN OCTOBER:

- October 20-23 Men’s Great Banquet #174 begins here
- October 27-30 Women’s Hopkins County Jail Banquet #24

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Filled With Joy 2

You’rx Nxxdxd! 2

Calendar 3

Birthdays & Anniversaries 3

WOW/RPM Start-up a Big Success 4

From the Fellowship Committee 4

World View 5

“Life’s most persistent question is, ‘What are you doing for others?’”  
[Martin Luther King, Jr.]

When Jesus is living through us, our lives look a lot like His... Please don’t get me wrong; it doesn’t take too close an observation to tell the differences between us and Him. But I do know that when we act like Christ, the family resemblance cannot be denied.

Read Acts 17:2. You’ll see Paul visiting a village and entering the synagogues there – “*as was his custom.*”

Read Luke 4:14-16. You’ll recognize a phrase. “Jesus returned...in the power of the Spirit... and on the Sabbath day He went into the synagogue, *as was His custom.*”

Did you notice? Jesus’ custom became Paul’s custom. How did that happen? Did you notice the other phrase in Luke 4? “...in the power of the Spirit...”

From the point of Jesus’ baptism on into His ministry, the Spirit had been with Him at all times:

\* The Holy Spirit descended upon Jesus. (3:22)

\* Full of the Holy Spirit, Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness. (4:1)

\* Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit. (4:14)

\* And Jesus read, “The Spirit of the Lord is on me...” (4:18)

The same Holy Spirit who powered and led Jesus during His earthly ministry is the same Holy Spirit who lives in you and me now. So then, as a result, when Jesus is living through us, our lives look a lot like His. But what does that look like in our lives? Notice in Luke 4 that when Jesus returned to His hometown synagogue, He read from the scroll of Isaiah. Jesus listed five things He intends to accomplish, through the Holy Spirit:

1. Proclaim good news to the poor

2. Proclaim freedom for the prisoners

3. Recover sight for the blind

4. Set the oppressed free

5. Proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor

Five different things, yet they all have this in common: Help the helpless. Jesus came as the Son of God to help helpless people. And because He lives in us, that is our calling, too.

So, the question for each of us is, “How do we best get to the point of our lives reflecting Christ?” The answer: making *His custom* of being in church *our custom*. Each of us needs each other, according to God’s Word. “Not forsaking the gathering” is another way of saying, “entering the synagogue *as was His custom.*” If Jesus needed to be in church, how do our reasons for *not* being in church stand up to scrutiny?

Blessings,  
RevLon

## FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Although in July we had a boost to our deficiency—in August spending again exceeded our income. Below is the month of July, August and the year to date General Fund income and expenses of our church.

Month	Income	Expenses	Shortfall/Gain
July	\$29,664	\$19,543	\$10,122
August	\$20,932	\$23,527	(\$2,595)
YTD	\$167,140	\$170,740	(\$3,600)

Thanks for your support!  
Dale Davis  
Tem Major  
Finance Committee

## “Filled With Joy”

When John heard in prison what Christ was doing, he sent his disciples to ask him, “Are you the one who was to come, or should we expect someone else?” Jesus replied, “Go back and report to John what you hear and see. The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is preached to the poor. Blessed is the man who does not fall away because of me.” Mt 11, Lk 7. John knew Jesus was the Messiah, yet he doubted because John wanted Jesus to get him

out of prison and spare his life. *“Just one more miracle, please.”* But Jesus didn’t do what John wanted.

When Paul pleaded with the Lord to remove the thorn God responded with “My Grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” 2 Cor 11. Paul wanted relief, God said “no.”

We all want miracles, something special because we are believers. God says “Be still and know...” Ps 46, Zec 2.

Scripture tells us when Jesus comes the people will be healed of their afflictions, (but maybe not in the way we think), and the

Good News will be preached to those who have not heard. Jesus doesn’t want us to sit around and wait for him to do something else, isn’t dying for you enough? He tells us to go and make disciples of all nations teaching them to obey everything he (Jesus) has taught us. If we follow him, he will be with us always. That’s good enough for me. Still on the inside, Pete.

## You’rx nxxdxd!

Evxn though my typxwritxr is an old modxl, it works quitx wxll— xxcxpt for onx kxy. I havx many timxs wishxd it workxd pxrxfctly. It’s trux that thx othxr kxys work grxat, but just onx kxy not working makxs a hugx diffxrxncx.

Somxtimxs our church sxxms likx my typxwritxr —

not all thx kxy pxoplx work. You may say to yoursxlf, “Wxll, I’m just onx pxrson. I don’t makx or brxak thx church.” But it doxs makx a big diffxrxncx bxcausx a church, to bx xffxctivx, nxxds thx activx participx-tion of vxvry pxrson.

So, thx nxxt timx you think your xfforts arxn’t

nxcxssary, rxmxmbxr my typxwritxr and say to yoursxlf, “I’m a kxy pxrson in thx congrxgation, and I’m nxxdxd vxry much.”

# October Birthdays & Anniversaries

- |      |                            |      |                            |
|------|----------------------------|------|----------------------------|
| 3rd  | Mike Bassett               | 23rd | Shirley Hoskins            |
|      | Joe Cates                  |      | Cindy Lansden              |
|      | Ann Hewlett                | 25th | Bev Engelhardt             |
| 5th  | James McClain              | 26th | Matt Agin                  |
| 9th  | Amanda Chambers            | 29th | Ellie Lansden              |
| 10th | Steve & Tammy Walker (A)   |      | Joel Lansden               |
| 11th | J.D. Lester                |      | Chesley & Becca Wilson (A) |
|      | Joe & Karla Cates          | 31st | Suzanne Wilson             |
| 14th | Amanda Daigle              |      |                            |
| 16th | Frances Cole               |      |                            |
| 19th | Mike & Yvonne Bourland (A) |      |                            |
| 22nd | Tim Ricks                  |      |                            |

FALL BREAK REMINDER:  
 Most activities during fall break are suspended or moved to other dates:  
 \* The Session will meet on Tuesday, October 11  
 \* There will be no Wednesday night activities on October 5  
 \* W.O.W. and R.P.M. will meet on October 12

## October 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
						1	
2	3 9:30AM Norma Siria Circle 6:00 GB Team Mtgs	<b>Fall Break - No Activities</b>			6	7	8
9	10 6:00 GB Team Mtgs	11 7PM Session	12 5:15 Fellowship Meal 6:00 Activities 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	13	14	15	
16	17 6:00 GB Team Mtgs	18	19 5:15 Fellowship Meal 6:00 Activities 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	20	21	22	
23	24 6:00 GB Team Mtgs	25	26 5:15 Fellowship Meal 6:00 Activities 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	27	28 Chili Supper	29	
30	31 6:00 GB Team Mtgs						



Men's Great Banquet #174 →

Women's Hopkins County Detention Center Great Banquet #24

## START YOUR ENGINES!



# WOW/RPM START-UP A BIG SUCCESS!

In September we had our first women's and men's group meetings. There were 32 folks who took part in the inaugural gatherings. That was a great start, and we hope to see both groups grow going forward! Once each month the adult Bible Study will give way to WOW (Women of Worth) and RPM (Relationship/Planning/Mission) to get together for casual fellowship, learning and a time of

setting course for doing ministry within the church and the community. In October, the women will be assembling care packages for our college students. The men have begun to put the word out of their availability in helping some of our church family with light jobs around their homes. Other possibilities will include volunteering with local mission agencies, retreats, and fellowship road

trips. It is the hope of each of these groups to grow forward in numbers and influence, both here at FPC and in the community and beyond. Everyone in and out of the church is invited to join in. The next meeting night is October 12.

*"...chili supper on October 28th from 5-7pm. ...There will also be a silent auction."*

## FROM THE FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

We are having a chili supper on October 28th from 5-7PM. The cost will be \$6.00 for chili, drink, and dessert. Hotdogs will be available for 50¢ each. There will also be a silent auction. If you would like to help with cakes or craft items to be auctioned, please contact

Susie Jackson. If you would like to bring a dessert to share, please bring it to church by 4:00 that day!

Also, for the month of October we are giving Halloween candy/treats to Grapevine School. They can be homemade or bought, but

need to be individually wrapped. Bring to the little kitchen by Sunday October 9th. Also, don't forget to be savings \$10 gift cards for their Christmas treats. Thanks for your support!

## Grateful Threads

Grateful Threads will be collecting homemade (knitted or crocheted) scarves and hats for school age children. They will be taken to preschool and

kindergarten children at Grapevine School. Please contact Susie Jackson if you wish to contribute. Cold weather will be here soon and unfortunately,



Grateful Threads

many children don't have these things!

## “Worldview”

Recently we've been focusing on creation in youth group. When we first started looking at what our theme would be this year I had an idea presented from a well-known youth ministry guru, Walt Mueller. His idea and reading suggestion led me to start a book called "Creation Regained: Biblical Basics for a Reformational Worldview" by Albert M. Wolters. I've not finished it but the basics tell us that our worldview is how we see creation, the fall and redemption. Or better yet how did everything come to be that is? Was there any influence by God or was it just a natural process that's happened without God? Is there an answer to the ills and evil around us or is it too just a process of natural selection and learned behavior based on experience, societal and philosophical opinions? And what about redemption? Is there such a thing or is this all we can expect, what you see is what you get? These are some big questions but how you answer these three will determine your worldview. And that's what we want our students to begin to explore and decide for themselves based on the truths that have been given to them in history, science, mathematics, biology and sociology. There are more areas to glean from but these are the points of reference for most of the arguments to whether God is or not. In the awe and wonder of creation we see the majesty and the complexity of our Creator. We see order that is beyond our realm of comprehension so we seek answers on our terms instead of on the supernatural spiritual level that God spoke and speaks stars into existence. Could it be that

the solar eclipse that will happen next year was put in place to happen just as it does by God speaking it into being? The big debates and public opinion have no determination on whether God exists or not. Nor do they have any bearing on what will happen tomorrow or next week or 10 years from now. People have been searching for answers to what is wrong with the world around them without first seeking to know what is wrong with themselves for thousands of years. It's called sin and we all must face the reality that God's perfect creation was fractured with the fall and it's in perpetual motion towards redemption when the new earth will come with Jesus' return bringing His kingdom, the perfection to us. That is the story of scripture in a nutshell, the story of all that was and will be is found in God's letter to us. Our opportunity is to live with that worldview as the foundation to everything we do knowing that God has been and will continue to be in control, Creator of all that was created, King of kings, Lord of lords, Prince of Peace and the Redeemer of all that is broken! The world will see your view as foolishness but they can't know the truth until they know the One who has given the Truth!

"The message of the cross is foolish to those who are headed for destruction! But we who are being saved know it is the very power of God. As the Scriptures say, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise and discard the intelligence of the intelligent." So where does this leave the philosophers, the scholars, and the world's

brilliant debaters? God has made the wisdom of this world look foolish. Since God in his wisdom saw to it that the world would never know him through human wisdom, he has used our foolish preaching to save those who believe. It is foolish to the Jews, who ask for signs from heaven. And it is foolish to the Greeks, who seek human wisdom. So when we preach that Christ was crucified, the Jews are offended and the Gentiles say it's all nonsense. But to those called by God to salvation, both Jews and Gentiles, Christ is the power of God and the wisdom of God." 1 Corinthians 1: 18-24

"When we tell you these things, we do not use words that come from human wisdom. Instead, we speak words given to us by the Spirit, using the Spirit's words to explain spiritual truths. But people who aren't spiritual can't receive these truths from God's Spirit. It all sounds foolish to them and they can't understand it, for only those who are spiritual can understand what the Spirit means. Those who are spiritual can evaluate all things, but they themselves cannot be evaluated by others. For, "Who can know the Lord's thoughts? Who knows enough to teach him?" But we understand these things, for we have the mind of Christ." 1 Corinthians 2:13-16

God is good, all the time! And all the time, God is good!  
In Christ's Love,  
Rob  
Romans 12

## Youth News

October 12<sup>th</sup> the Youth Group will be hosted by Rob & Denise at their home with a meal provided. Our annual Fall Retreat at Camp Loucon is November 4-6 and the cost is \$30. Deadline for signups is October 16<sup>th</sup>. Forms that need to be filled out can be found in the youth

room. Thank you to all that contributed to our Soup & Sandwich youth fundraiser! We so appreciate everyone that are investing in the students that call our group home! Our average attendance on Wednesday nights is 17 middle and high school students and can vary

from 15 to 23 depending on the night. And Yes they are part of our family here and we are so blessed to have them!



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