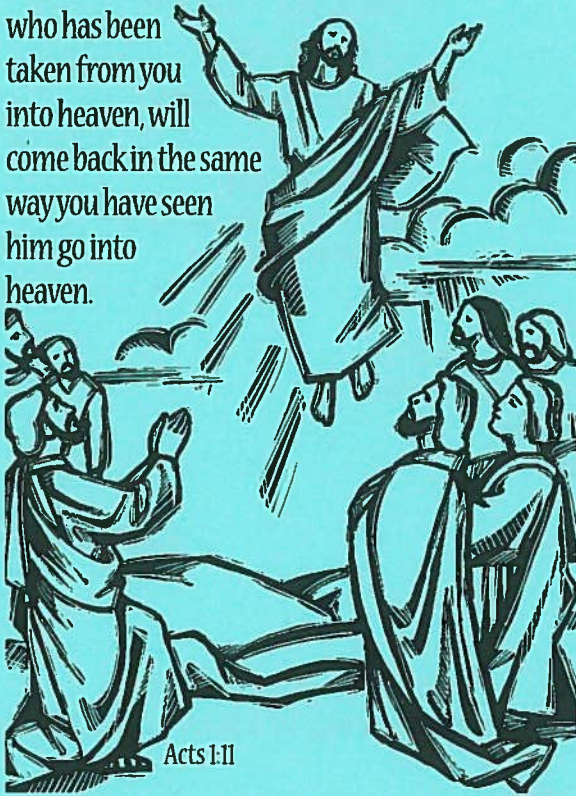


This same Jesus,
who has been
taken from you
into heaven, will
come back in the same
way you have seen
him go into
heaven.



GRACE BIBLE CHURCH

222 Boulder Drive, Gallup, NM 87301

Sunday School - 9:00 AM

Youth Group - 6:00 PM

Worship Service - 10:15 AM

Edge - 6:00 PM

Prayer Time - 6:00 PM

John W. Luginbuhl, Pastor

Steve Yoder, Youth Pastor

Church Office: (505) 722-5114

Pastor's E-mail: john@gracebiblegallup.org

Youth Pastor's E-mail: forevertrustinghim@yahoo.com

www.gracebiblegallup.org

Grace Bible Church
~ The Lord's Day ~
May 4, 2014
"Graduation Sunday!"

WELCOME

9:00 AM
10:15 AM

Sunday School for all ages
Worship Service

Call to Worship
Welcome/Announcements
Recognition of Graduates
Praise & Worship
Special Music

Scripture Reading

I Thessalonians 1:1-10

Message

John Luginbuhl

"The Believer's Identity!"
(Part 1 of a Series, "Living in Light of Jesus' Return!")

The Lord's Table
Closing

*Offering will be received during the third song; children age 3 - grade 4 will be dismissed to Children's Church after the Special Music.

SERVING IN THE NURSERY TODAY:

Crawlers: Rachel Irving & Moriah Yale

Walkers: Lorelee Tibboel & Tyler McKennon

SERVING IN THE NURSERY NEXT SUNDAY:

Crawlers: Donna Damon & Liz Helf

Walkers: Sefina & Star Garcia

LATER TODAY...

1:30 PM Open House @ GBC for Graduates
6:00 PM Prayer Time
6:00 PM Youth Group (grades 6-12)
6:00 PM Edge Group (after High School)

WE WELCOME YOU!

There are many good reasons for coming to church, but we hope that your joining us this morning includes the best reason: to thank and worship God for His amazing love revealed in the birth, life, and ministry, the suffering and death, and the wondrous resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ! This is what our church is all about! If you are visiting today, please fill out a guest card and bring it to our Welcome Center in the foyer and receive a free gift. Thank you... and visit us again!

The mission of our church is to prayerfully prepare believers for worshiping God, serving Christ, loving one another, and reaching out to others!

2014 YEAR VERSE:

"The Lord does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."

~ I Samuel 16:7b



WE INVITE YOU TO PARTAKE of the Lord's Table this morning - whether you are a visitor or regular-attender - if you are trusting Jesus Christ alone for salvation and if there is no known unconfessed sin in your life.



CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF OUR GRADUATES!

We are praying for you!



LADIES' TEA

MAY 10, 11 AM

SIGN UP TODAY!

- OPEN TO GIRLS OF ALL AGES! -



A list of May birthdays and anniversaries of regular-attenders of Grace Bible is on the kitchen door. Please make (legible) corrections/additions right on the list. Thank you!

DID YOU KNOW? On May 9, 1914, President Woodrow Wilson officially proclaimed the second Sunday in May to be "Mother's Day!"

GUYS! We are going back to Promise Keepers!
Put this on your calendar now.
July 25-27, in Loveland, CO.
Details will be in next week's bulletin.

This Week in Church History...

On May 9, 1828, Andrew Murray, South African Dutch Reformed clergyman, was born at Graaff-Reinet, South Africa. Murray was a conservative theologian with mystical inclinations and profound devotional life. Although a great traveling spokesman for the church in his own day, Murray is better remembered for his more than 250 devotional works. His most famous book is *Abide in Christ* (1860-64).

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK...

*"God is too great to be knocked off course by
the malpractice of wicked men.*

~ J.A. Motyer

PRAISE & PETITION



“Not to us, O Lord, not to us, but to Thy name give glory because of Thy loving-kindness, because of Thy truth.”

~ Psalm 115:1

Praise the Lord for:

1. Jesus Christ, Our Savior, Lord, Rock, Fortress. We believers are complete in Him (Col. 2:10). Praise God for salvation in Christ!
2. All of our graduates, who have worked so hard to get to this point!
3. The privilege of worshipping Him!
4. The wonderful work of the Holy Spirit of God - for giving us the ministry of reconciliation and restoration!
5. Entrusting us with the Gospel, opportunities to share it!

Petition the Lord for:

1. A deeper love for Jesus and the things that count for eternity; a deeper desire to share the Gospel, worship, pray, read/study the Bible.
2. All our graduates: for God's leading and provision in their lives.
3. Holly Knox and Caitie Yale as they prepare to leave for Romania (May 20).
4. Charles & Mildred Schoolcraft (struggling with health issues); Jonathan Helf (surgery on thumb); Mark Yoder (knee surgery); Beth Hess (recovering from surgery); Dino Butler (recovering from surgery); Nellie Wero (kidney failure); Charity Chavez's father (VA Hospital, Albq.); Valerie Shell's mother (UNM Hospital, Albq.)
5. Ricky Lee (Nellie Lee's son), Sean Begaye, and Jana Sheffield (Nixons' niece), all in Afghanistan; Adam Sowers (Ft. Hood); Kyle Prendergast (Ophelia Krupica's son), stationed (Air Force) in Germany.
6. Our President, military advisors, military men and women.

“The Believer’s Identity!”
(Part 1 of a series, “Living in Light of Jesus’ Return!”)
I Thessalonians 1:1-10

It is easy to spend so much time discussing and debating the details of Jesus’ return that we forget that this wonderful doctrine and event should have an impact on how we live *now*! This was the Apostle Paul’s purpose as he wrote 1 & 2 Thessalonians!

1. Introduction

2. An Elect People (vss. 1-4)

3. An Exemplary People (vss. 5-7)

This Week at Grace Bible...

(Here at the church unless otherwise noted.)

Monday, May 5

7:00 PM Life Group at the Luginbuhls' Home
(303 Cactus Rd.) (study in Micah)

Tuesday, May 6

9:30 AM Ladies' Bible Study
5:15 PM Deacons' Meeting
5:20 PM Ladies' Aerobics
6:30 PM FBI Class
7:00 PM Life Group at Silvas' home
(621 VandenBosch Parkway, Gallup)

Wednesday, May 7

6:30 PM AWANA ("Grand Finale" [Awards] Night)

Thursday, May 8

5:20 PM Ladies' Aerobics

Saturday, May 10

11:00 AM Ladies' Tea (see insert)

Sunday, May 11

Mother's Day!

COMING SOON:

May 12 (6:30 PM) Cornerstone Bible Institute Singers and Handbell Choir at Native Bible Fellowship
May 17 Work Day at GBC (see insert)
May 23 (7 PM) All-Church Movie Night! "Grace Unplugged"



Ladies Tea

Becoming the Bride of Christ

"Behold! The bridegroom is coming; go out to meet him!"

Matthew 25:6b

Saturday, May 10, 2014

11:00am

Grace Bible Church

Sign up at the table in the foyer to bring finger food, fruit, vegetable or tea cookies or sign up to decorate a table.

If you have your wedding dress and/or veil, and would be willing to allow us to use it for the decorations, please let one of the deaconesses know.

Deadline to sign up is Sunday, May 4, 2014

For more information, contact Betsy Branson, Kim Helfenbein, Debra Gill, Staci Spolar or Alicia Yale.

**MEMBERS
AT WORK**

Work Day

at Church

SATURDAY, May 17

9:00 AM - ?

For all ages!

(Children under 13 must be accompanied by a parent.)



Come and help beautify our church building!

We need your help!

(Lunch will be provided)

We will be working on several projects (inside & outside).

YOUR HELP IS SO
IMPORTANT!

PLEASE COME!



significant news for christians

Some news that's encouraging—some disturbing. Read with discernment. Watch and pray.

THE Church Around the WORLD

May 2014



Central African Republic



USA

Country in Focus: Central African Republic (1)



Located in the center of the African continent, the Central African Republic (CAR) is rich in natural resources, but underdeveloped infrastructure and the country's landlocked status have limited income for most of its citizens. Diamonds account for more than half of the country's exports. A massive gulf remains between the richer capital city area and the poor, impoverished hinterlands. The evangelism of the 1960s and 1970s resulted in many new converts to Christianity but a shortage of disciples. Unrest in the country, as well as in neighboring Chad and Sudan, has meant that many areas of the CAR have seen either a loss of progress or outright declines in evangelism.

Pray:

- For the immense physical needs of the CAR after a series of coups and countercoups that have devastated the economy and infrastructure;
- For safety and the needed resources for mission agencies, which play an important role in education, health, and work with children.

Pot, Public Opinion, and Theology (2)

As public opinion in the United States has shifted in support of legalized marijuana, religious leaders are wrestling over competing interests, including high prison rates and legislating morality. According to a 2013 survey from the Public Religion Research Institute, 58 percent of white mainline Protestants and 54 percent of black Protestants favor legalizing the use of marijuana. On the other side, 69 percent of white evangelical Protestants oppose it.

Catholics appear to be the most divided Christian group, with 48 percent favoring legalization and 50 percent opposing it. Caught in the middle of the debate are pastors, theologians, and other religious leaders, torn over how to uphold traditional understandings of sin and morality amid a rapidly changing tide of public opinion.

Nine states and the District of Columbia have introduced legislation to legalize recreational marijuana use by adults. Since 1996, 20 states have passed legislation to allow medical marijuana, while 16 states have begun to allow the possession of small amounts of marijuana.

Pastor's Wife in Iran Released Early (3)

Shahnaz Jayzan, wife of Farhad Sabokrouh, has been released after serving nine months in jail. She was released on the condition that neither she

Continued on page 2

nor her husband hold church services or visit other Christians in western Iran's Khuzestan province. Jayzan was also told that she and her husband should leave their hometown of Ahwaz, where Sabokrouh was pastor of the Assemblies of God church, and report to the revolutionary court every four months.



The couple was jailed alongside two church members for "converting to Christianity, proselytizing Muslims and propagating against the Islamic regime by means of evangelism." All received one-year jail sentences but have now been released early.

Ugandan Law Would Give Gays Life Imprisonment (4)

A Ugandan cleric who ministers to homosexuals has criticized the passage of a controversial law that imposes life imprisonment for homosexual acts. Christopher Ssenyonjo,

the former Anglican bishop of West Buganda, said gay men have done nothing wrong and should not be punished. The bill was first proposed in 2009 but has been shelved due to international pressure. Homosexuality is illegal in 38 African countries.

Name Change Emphasizes Global Focus

HCJB Global announced recently that the 82-year-old ministry, founded in Quito, Ecuador, is changing its name to Reach Beyond. The new name is intended to encourage and challenge Christians worldwide to reach beyond their comfort zones. Founded in 1931 as World Radio Missionary Fellowship, Inc., Reach Beyond has focused on making disciples of Christ around the world. With ministries in more than 100 countries, Reach Beyond equips partners to air Christian content in more than 120 languages and dialects.

Wayne Pederson, president and CEO of Reach Beyond, says the name change also reflects the ministry's ongoing international focus and commitment to reach areas where less than 2 percent of the population is Christian. The organization hopes the "Reach Beyond Manifesto" will serve as a call to action for Christians to focus their attention and efforts on those areas of the world where

This month you can... Tell Us Your Church's Success Stories.



Did your church try a new outreach program? Did you stage a unique "visitors welcome" event? Have you implemented a new greeters program that is more effective? Have you hosted a community event that brought people back to your Sunday service?

Did your church march in the Fourth of July parade?

We want to give you a chance to pass on your idea to other churches. Send us your stories, and we'll share them over the next year of *The Church Around the World*.

Just drop us an e-mail at

jimkraus@tyndale.com (and please put "Success Stories" in the subject line). The e-mail doesn't have to be long and detailed, but we want you to share with us so we can share with all our readers.

Thanks! We're looking forward to hearing from you.



ChurchAround the**WORLD**

Christ has yet to be proclaimed. “It’s a call to action to ourselves; it’s a stake in the ground,” Pederson says. “We’re totally dedicated to taking all the cost, to go full speed ahead for the cause of Christ. That’s our Reach Beyond manifesto.”

Christian-Muslim Clashes in Central African Republic Leave 75 Dead ⁽¹⁾

Clashes between Christian and Muslim groups in the Central African Republic (CAR) have left 75 people dead and thousands of others in hiding.

The CAR has been locked in sectarian battles ever since the resignation of interim president Michel Djotodia earlier this year. The transitional government had hopes of restoring peace and preparing for democratic elections, but those efforts were hampered by fighting between Seleka rebels and anti-Balaka fighters.

Persecution watchdog group Open Doors ranked the CAR number 16 on its 2014 World Watch List of countries where Christians face the most persecution. One of their local workers said that thousands of people fleeing the sectarian violence were hiding in churches and mosques.

A January report by Open Doors revealed that conditions in the African country were “shocking” and that people have been forced to live “like animals” due to the widespread violence.

BBC News noted that France has over 1,600 soldiers in the CAR who are working with another 4,000 troops in the region to end the deadly violence in the troubled country, where about a million people, or 20 percent of the entire population, have been forced to flee their homes.

Abortion Rates Lowest Since 1973 ⁽²⁾

The abortion rate in the U.S. has dropped to its lowest level since the procedure became legal in 1973, according to a new data analysis that reflects a 13 percent decline in both the abortion rate and the number of abortions from 2008 to 2011.

The 2011 rate declined to 16.9 abortions per 1,000 women ages 15–44, second only to 1973, when the rate was 16.3 per 1,000. “A



13 percent drop over a three-year time period is a pretty steep decline. It’s unusual,” said Rachel Jones, the lead author of the study.

Jones attributes the decline to more women using “highly effective contraceptive methods such as the IUD” and to the fact that the study period was during the

recession and sluggish recovery. “We didn’t find any clear associations between abortion restrictions and declines in abortion rates,” Jones said. “We saw drops in abortions in the states that had restrictions, but they were not substantially bigger than what we saw in other states.”

Randall O’ Bannon, of the National Right to Life Committee in Washington, D.C., which opposes abortion, describes the new report as “significant progress.”

Dumbing Down Baptism? (5)

The Church of England has been accused of dumbing down its baptism service after the introduction of an alternative liturgy in which parents and godparents need not repent of their sins or reject the devil. In the traditional



version of the service, parents and godparents are asked, “Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?” and “Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbor?” In the alternative version, now being tested in 400 churches, parents are instead asked to “reject evil and all its many forms and all its empty promises.”

Former bishop of Rochester Michael Nazir-Ali said the new service is part of the constant “dumbing down of Christian teachings.” The church’s governing body approved the limited trial to see if the new wording would be more acceptable to people who do not believe in a physical devil, sin, or the need to repent.

A Child’s Right to Die (6)

A long-running debate over a child’s right to die is coming to a head after the passage of a bill by Belgium’s upper house of parliament agreeing to extend the country’s euthanasia laws to children. If the bill is adopted, the measure will make Belgium the first country to allow euthanasia for children who are terminally ill and living with “constant and unbearable physical suffering.” The child would have to submit a written request for the procedure, have a capacity for discernment, and obtain consent from his or her parents.

Church Bombed in “Allah” Dispute (7)

A church in the western Malaysian state of Penang has been firebombed as dispute over use of the word *Allah* continues. Police have increased security around other churches in the state after the attack, which came after several churches displayed banners that read, “Jesus is the Son of Allah.” Church leaders deny putting the banners up, but the attack is seen as a reprisal.

To check out more church resources and read the editor’s thoughts, please visit us at www.tyndaleperiodicals.com.

Never stop praying. Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you who belong to Christ Jesus. 1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-18