

For as often as
you eat this bread
and drink the cup,
you proclaim
the Lord's death
until he comes.

1 Corinthians 11:26

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 ~
July 6, 2014

WELCOME

9:00 AM

Sunday School for all ages

10:15 AM

Worship Service

Call to Worship
Welcome/Announcements
Praise & Worship
Special Music

Scripture Reading

I Thessalonians 4:13-18

Message

John Luginbuhl

“Comfort in Uncomfortable Times!”
(Part 10 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: Brenda Manning & Amber Beard

Walkers: Carrie Ruthven & Liz Helf

SERVING IN THE NURSERY NEXT SUNDAY:

Crawlers: Pam Keller & Adrianna Pete

Walkers: Betsy Branson & Amanda Gaines

LATER TODAY...

6:00 PM Prayer Time

6:00 PM Youth Group (grades 6-12)

6:00 PM Edge Group (age 18-25)

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.



HAVEN'T REGISTERED FOR CAMP YET? There are still four weeks to choose from at Broken Arrow Bible Ranch!

"Junior Camp" (ages 8-12) weeks are this week and July 14. "Teen Camp" (ages 13-19) weeks are July 21 and 28. Bright orange brochures for camp registration are on the Welcome Desk. Why not go to camp this Summer? You'll be glad you did!

PASTOR JOHN AND LINDA will be away all this week. Please pray for them as they travel. In the event of an emergency, please contact Pastor Steve or one of our Elders (Caleb Chavez, Steve Knox, Glenn Marshall, Mike Nye, Mark Yoder). Thank you!

OUR PRAYERS AND SYMPATHIES are extended to Glen & CC Arms on the recent passing of Glen's mother, as well as to Kelli Chepin and family on the recent passing of her father-in-law. Let's pray for the folks during these days.

IT'S COMING...
National Back to Church Sunday!
September 21, 2014
WATCH FOR DETAILS!

OUR THANKS to Jonathan, Jean, Willie, and Liz Helf for the beautiful job they did on our gym floor! It looks wonderful!

THE ELDERS are considering appointing Angela O'Bourke to the Deaconess Board. If you have any questions or concerns about this, please contact Mike Nye or Pastor John.

Summer is a perfect time to give someone a Gospel tract! Tracts are available for you at the Welcome Desk in the foyer.



A list of July 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!

This Week in Church History...

On July 10, 1925, the famous Scopes "Monkey Trial" began in Dayton, Tennessee. High school biology teacher, John T. Scopes was arrested on May 5 for teaching Darwin's theory of evolution to his students. His trial defense was conducted by Clarence Darrow, with fundamentalist orator William Jennings Bryan acting as prosecuting attorney. Scopes was found guilty, but was fined only \$100. Two years later, the Tennessee Supreme Court reversed the trial decision on a legal technicality, and in 1967, the statute broken by Scopes was repealed.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK...

"Evangelism in the New Testament sense is the vocation of every believer and there is therefore something radically wrong when we imply that personal evangelism is the province of those who have the time and/or inclination to take special courses and learn special techniques."

~ Roland Allen



PRAISE & PETITION

“Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord.”

~ Psalm 33:12a

Praise the Lord for:

1. Our nation and all the freedoms we enjoy!
2. The wonderful gift of salvation that is ours as we put our faith in Jesus Christ, Who died in our place for our sin.
3. The summer season, with all of its opportunities for traveling and witnessing.
4. A great fourth week of camp at Broken Arrow Bible Ranch - 81 campers & many decisions for Jesus!
5. The rain we received recently!
6. His faithfulness in our lives!

Petition the Lord for:

1. More of a heart for the lost! More desire to share the gospel!
2. All our moms, dads, families, as they strive to take a stand for Jesus Christ.
3. The staff at Broken Arrow Bible Ranch as they prepare to begin week #5 of the camping season tomorrow afternoon.
4. The many folks in our church who are traveling.
5. Kim Sowers and Melissa Martinez, as they prepare for their August 9 wedding!
6. Charles & Mildred Schoolcraft (struggling with health issues); Mark Yoder (knee surgery); Nellie Wero (kidney failure); Jim Jeffries (Charity Chavez's father; recuperating); Keira Kontz (recuperating); Kim Helfenbein's father (ICU, in Kansas); Carol Parpart (recovering from hip surgery)
7. Ricky Lee (Nellie Lee's son) and Sean Begaye, in Afghanistan; Adam Sowers (Ft. Hood); Kyle Prendergast (Ophelia Krupica's son), stationed (Air Force) in Ethiopia.
8. Our President, military advisors, military men and women.

“Comfort in Uncomfortable Times!”
(Part 10 of a series, “Living in Light of Jesus’ Return!”)
I Thessalonians 4:13-18

How does the possibility of Jesus’ soon return affect you? Do you “shrug your shoulders” at it? Does it comfort you? Does it encourage you? Does it “do” anything to you? The unsaved world in Paul’s day had no hope of life after death (like many folks today!). Apparently a typical inscription on a grave read, “I was not. I became. I am not. I care not.” Not exactly a lot of “assurance” of anything after death! Understandably, the new believers in Thessalonica were concerned about their loved ones who had died. What happened to them? What if the Lord returned? “What if?”

The return of the Lord is supposed to *encourage* us, *comfort* us! In verses 13-18 of I Thessalonians 4, the Apostle Paul encourages and comforts the church by sharing 5 fundamental facts. These facts should comfort us, encourage us, motivate us to continue to serve the Lord, to live for Christ, in these uncomfortable / disturbing days in which we live!

- 1. The Bible: God’s Truth (vss. 13, 15a).**

- 2. Jesus: Coming Again (vss. 14-16)!**

- 3. Those Who Have Died in Christ: Rise (vss. 15-16).**

- 4. Living Believers: Caught Up (vs. 17).**

- 5. Christians: Forever With the Lord (vss. 17-18)!**

This Week at Grace Bible...

(Here at the church unless otherwise noted.)

Monday, July 7

7:00 PM

[No Life Group at the Luginbuhls' Home;
resumes July 14]

Tuesday, July 8

7:00 PM

Life Group at Silvas' home
(621 VandenBosch Parkway, Gallup)
Study in Jonah

Thursday, July 10

6:30 PM

"Greater Health God's Way" Bible Study
at Gills' home

7:00 PM

Men's Prayer Time

COMING SOON:

July 25 - 27

Promise Keepers Conference in
Loveland, CO

July 31 - August 2

Elders/Deacons Leadership Conference
(Scottsdale)

August 3

Quarterly Business Meeting

August 9

Kim Sowers/Melissa Martinez Wedding

August 15

Movie Night: "God is Not Dead"

significant news for christians

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

THE Church Around the WORLD

July 2014



Kenya



Iran

Country in Focus: Kenya (1)

Kenya became independent from Great Britain in 1963, and while the leading political party at the time marginalized many of the country's ethnic groups, it did create stability, which was vital to the region. Now a multiparty state, Kenya faces many political and economic challenges. Kenya also remains a regional and continental hub for Christian missions, theological education, and church ministry. Nearly 50 percent of the population identifies as evangelicals.

Pray that:

- Kenya's long-term stability will continue and that everyone will have a voice in the government;
- rampant corruption will be dealt with to allow the government to effectively combat terrorism and drug trafficking;
- nominal believers will catch a fresh vision of the truth, leading to changed lives;
- the recent explosive growth of independent churches will find accountability and adhere to biblical standards;
- the least-evangelized people groups and minorities will be reached with the gospel.

UN Report Blasts Iran for Persecution of Christians (2)

The election last year of self-professed moderate President Hassan Rouhani has not brought Iran's Christians any relief, according to a new United Nations report that finds the Islamic republic's Bible believers more persecuted than ever.

The detailed report reveals that Iran has continued to imprison Christians for their faith and has designated house churches and evangelical Christians as "threats to national security." At least 49 Christians were among 307 religious minorities being held in Iranian jails as of January 2014, noted the UN, which also blasted the regime for its hostility to Jews, Baha'is, Zoroastrians, and Dervish Muslims.

"These are indicators that President Rouhani has no influence over hard-liners, who remain fully in charge of the judiciary and security apparatus, government entities that are responsible for the most severe abuses against religious minorities," said Dwight Bashir, deputy director for policy at the US Commission on International Religious Freedom.

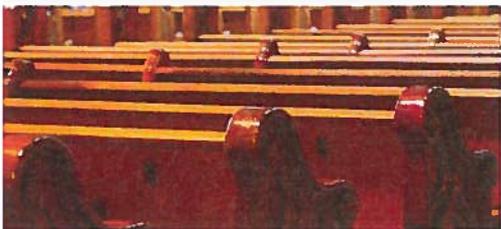
Church of England Sunday Attendance Continues Downward Slide (3)

Attendance figures released by the Church of England show that Sunday worship attendance continues its downward slide and now stands at about half of what it was 45 years ago. Statistics show that

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on average in 2012, 800,000 adults, or about 2 percent of the adult population, attended church on Sunday. That's down from 1.6 million Sunday worshippers in 1968.

One of England's top judges, Baroness Brenda Hale, said the Church of England is in decline because it is so undemanding. She recently told a conference at Yale Law School,



"It has no dietary laws, no dress codes for men or women, and very little that its members can say is actually required of them by way of observance."

Hale's comments came in a lecture

following a series of court cases in which British Christians claimed to be suffering from religious discrimination but lost their cases. She described England as a "paradoxical country" when it comes to religion, saying that even though the Church of England is the "established" church (and has been since Henry VIII broke from Rome in the 16th century), half the population does not profess any religious affiliation.

Global Leaders: CAR Chaos "Not About Religion"⁽⁴⁾

The top religious leaders of the Central African Republic (CAR) urged the United Nations and the Security Council to act quickly to send UN peacekeeping forces as violence in their country continues. Despite a change of president and the arrival of a few thousand peacekeeping troops, the slaughter has not

This month you can... Invite someone to church



There is a VFW hall a few blocks from where I work. It has been there for at least 30 years—as long as I have lived in this area. While I have eaten in nearly every restaurant in the area at least once in the last 30 years, I have never set foot in that particular VFW.

Why? Because I have never been invited. For a long time, I assumed one needed to be an actual veteran to enter—which I am not. And, like many, I'm a little hesitant to enter a place I know nothing about.

I think many churches suffer from the same

"non-invitation" problems. Potential visitors think, "I'm not a member, so I wouldn't be welcomed" or "I don't know anything about that church—so I'm not taking a chance."

Here are a few interesting (and alarming) statistics on invitations:

- Eighty-two percent of "un-churched" are somewhat likely to attend church if invited.
- Only 2 percent of church members invite an un-churched person to church.
- A study of 15,000 adults revealed that at least half are willing to receive information

about a local church from a family member, friend, or neighbor.

- Sixty-two percent of formerly churched adults, while not actively looking for a new church home, are open to the idea of attending church regularly again.
- People are still going to church—and more people would attend if given one simple thing: an invitation.

This month, make it a point to encourage everyone at your church to invite at least one person to attend with them in the next few weeks.



Church Around the WORLD

abated. The Catholic archbishop of Bangui, the leader of the Protestant churches, and the imam of Bangui met UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, who said, “We want to pass on an essential message: that the conflict in the Central African Republic is not about religion.” Ban described the three prelates, and their joint “platform for peace” initiative, as a “powerful symbol of their country’s long-standing tradition of peaceful coexistence. . . . Religious and ethnic affiliations are being manipulated for political purposes,” he said. The CAR has been plagued by violence since December 2012.

with lower GDPs ranked higher for meaning. Toward the top were Sierra Leone, Togo, Laos, and Senegal, all of which were in the bottom 50 countries in the world for gross domestic product per capita in 2012. Poorer countries also had lower suicide rates.

The data showed that richer countries were less religious than poorer countries. The researchers found that this factor of religiosity mediated the relationship between a country’s wealth and the perceived meaning in its citizens’ lives, indicating that it was the presence of religion that largely accounted for the gap between money and meaning. They analyzed other factors but said that, in the end, it came down to religion.

Even among countries with similar GDPs, the more religious ones reported higher levels of life meaning. For example, the US and Ireland—relatively religious, wealthy nations—reported higher meaning than Japan and France, which were similarly wealthy but less religious.

Religious Police Found in One in Ten Countries Worldwide

As of 2012, at least 17 nations (9 percent worldwide) have police that enforce religious norms, according to a new Pew Research analysis. These actions are particularly common in the Middle East and North Africa, where roughly one-third of countries (35 percent) have police enforcing religious norms.

Where Life Has Meaning: Poor, Religious Countries

A recent study in *Psychological Science* took a global look at the quest for meaning, analyzing data from the Gallup World Poll to determine where people feel meaning and how they found it. The survey data comes from 132 countries, where the researchers specifically looked at self-reported meaning in life, religiosity, fertility rates, GDP, and suicide rates.

Previous research has shown that wealthy countries typically rank higher on life satisfaction, which is not the same as meaning. Satisfaction has to do with “objective living conditions,” the researchers say, which is why wealthy countries with relatively stable economies and political conditions rank higher. But meaning is more subjective.

The Gallup data showed that countries

For example, in Saudi Arabia, the Muttawa religious police impose a government-approved moral code on residents of the country. The Muttawa enforce strict segregation of the sexes, prohibition of the sale and consumption of alcohol, a ban on women driving, and other social restrictions based on the government's interpretation of Islam.

Saudi Arabia is not alone in its use of a religious police force. In the Asia-Pacific region, police enforcing religious norms are found in 8 of 50 countries (16 percent). In Vietnam, the government's religious security police continue to monitor "extremist" religious groups, detaining and interrogating suspected Protestants and Catholics. And in Malaysia, state Islamic religious enforcement officers and police carry out raids to enforce *sharia* law against indecent dress, banned publications, alcohol consumption, and *khalwat* (close proximity to a member of the opposite sex).

In sub-Saharan Africa, two countries in the region (Nigeria and Somalia) have religious police. In Nigeria, the Hisbah are funded and supported by governments in several states, where they enforce their interpretation of *sharia* law.

As of 2012, religious police forces were not present in any country in Europe or the Americas.

Syrian Christians Face Third Year of Civil War, Persecution (5)

The plight of Christians within civil war-torn Syria, now in its third year of death and destruction, is dismal. More than 140,000 people have been killed, International Christian

Concern reports. The number of registered refugees was approximately 890,000 a year ago, and that number has swelled to more than 2.5 million. More than 450,000 Christians have fled the country to Lebanon and Turkey. For those who remain in Syria, the cost of food has gone to astronomical levels, and Christians are fearful because of sniper attacks and other violence.

"The fear that parents have every morning, when they think about if their kids could even think about leaving the house . . . ," said Todd Daniels of International Christian Concern. "They realize that very literally it is taking their life in their hands."

Gunmen Attack Kenyan Church (1)

In what police called a terrorist attack, two gunmen stormed a packed church near the Kenyan coastal city of Mombasa and opened fire on worshipers, killing three people and wounding others. One witness said the gunmen shouted out in a foreign language before shooting indiscriminately at the congregation. Blood-spattered Bibles and overturned plastic chairs lay strewn across the church's floor after the attack. "Both carried big guns and began shooting all over the place. I fell to the ground and could hear screams," said Lilian Omondi, who was leading a prayer recital at the time.

Kenya's parliament has called for better coordination between the security and intelligence agencies after 67 people were killed in an attack on a shopping mall in Nairobi last September.

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

Devote yourselves to prayer with an alert mind and a thankful heart. COLOSSIANS 4:2