

“The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you.”

L U K E 1 : 3 5

GRACE BIBLE CHURCH

222 Boulder Drive, Gallup, NM 87301

Sunday School - 9:00 AM

Worship Service - 10:15 AM

Youth Group - 6:00 PM

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 ~
December 18, 2016

WELCOME

9:00 AM
10:15 AM

Sunday School for all ages
Worship Service

Praise & Worship
Welcome/Announcements
Offering *
Scripture Reading

Luke 1:26-38

Message

John Luginbuhl

"Christmas: Overshadowed by God!"

Closing

*Children age 3 -grade 4 will be dismissed to Children's Church after
Special Music.

SERVING IN THE NURSERY TODAY:

Crawlers: Pam Keller & Madison Sutliff

Walkers: Daisy Brown & Tristan Keller

SERVING IN THE NURSERY NEXT SUNDAY:

Crawlers: Sharee Keedo & Liz Helf

Walkers: Rachel Irving & Dakotah Harvey

LATER TODAY...

6:00 PM Prayer Time

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

6:00 PM Edge Group (ages 18-25) meets

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!

2016 YEAR VERSE:

“Watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong.”

- I Corinthians 16:13

YOU ARE ENCOURAGED to think about and pray about a “Year Verse” for our church for 2017! Suggestions can be written out (please include which version of the Bible) and given to Pastor John, placed in the offering plate, or e-mailed to Pastor John at john@gracebiblegallup.org. Thank you!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY! Last Sunday’s love offering for Amy Shreve and Gary Wixtrom was \$1,147.13!

THE ELDERS are prayerfully considering Kim Helfenbein for the Deaconess Board. If you have any questions or concerns about this, please speak with Steve Knox or Pastor John.

ALL-CHURCH CHRISTMAS CAROLING! Dec. 19, 6:45 PM



- Meet at church and dress warmly!
 - Bring the whole family!
 - Refreshments after caroling.
-

NEED ANY BOXES? Cardboard boxes of all sizes are “yours for the taking” in the gymnasium. Please help yourself!

FROM OUR FINANCIAL SECRETARY:

"Notice to donors: Donors are advised not to file their federal income tax return before they receive their contributions receipt from the church. Also, donors wishing to 'catch up' on their financial commitments to the church must deliver such contributions before Jan. 1, 2017, to be credited to 2016, (mailed-in contributions must be postmarked by Dec. 31). Backdating is not allowed by the IRS. See Paul Schell for advice."

This Week in Church History...

On December 24, 1816, James Montgomery's new hymn, "Angels from the Realms of Glory", first appeared in print, being published in the *Iris*, a Sheffield, England, newspaper edited by Montgomery himself.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK...

"He took the form of a servant while He retained the form of God! It is exactly that which makes our salvation possible and achieves it."

~ William Hendricksen

PRAISE & PETITION

“And you shall call His Name Jesus, for it is
He Who will save His people from their sins.”

~ Matthew 1:21

Praise the Lord for:

1. Jesus' mission: to save people from their sins! Praise the Lord for salvation through Jesus, as we trust in Him!
2. Forgiveness of sins, a place in heaven reserved for us, deliverance from Hell - all through faith in Jesus Christ and His finished work for us at Calvary.
3. Opportunities for ministry during this Christmas season.
4. Keith and Emily Saunders, as they have begun married life!
5. His Sovereignty!
6. Family and friends, both “near and far”.

Petition the Lord for:

1. Those who are lonely and/or depressed this holiday season.
2. Those who will be traveling to see family and friends.
3. Families in our church going through the rough waters of life at this time. (Isa. 43:1,2)
4. College students “home for the holidays”. Pray for a refreshing time with family and friends.
5. Opportunities during the Christmas season to share our faith in Jesus with family and friends.
6. Couples being married soon: Alex DenBleyker and Tyler McKennon (Dec. 28); Steve Yoder and Jackie Lawrence (March 19).
7. Sean Begaye, in Afghanistan; Adam Sowers (Ft. Hood); Kyle Prendergast (Ophelia Krupica's son), stationed (Air Force) in Germany; Jesus, Jessalyn, and Nora Ubanda (Okinawa, Japan); Whitney Pratt (Air Force); Jared Payton (Tucson, AZ)
8. Our President, military advisors, military men and women.
9. Those who need the Lord's healing touch:
 - Jeremy Richardson (brain tumor)
 - Eliza Jonkman (Schells' granddaughter)
 - Debra Gill (recuperating from surgery)
 - Steve Tobey: kidney issues
 - Shirley Marshall (Good Samaritan, Grants)
 - Alan Cumiford (asthma; general health)

“Christmas: Overshadowed By God!”

Luke 1:26-38

Can you imagine what it was like for Mary, the mother of our Lord, to be told that she would give birth to the Son of God, the Messiah? That she would be “overshadowed” by the Holy Spirit? Let’s take a closer look... **Mary...**

1. Knew the Scriptures

2. Understood Who Jesus Is

3. Was Overshadowed By God

This Week at Grace Bible...

(Here at the church unless otherwise noted.)

Monday, December 19

6:45 PM

All-Church Christmas Caroling
(see announcement)

Sunday, December 25 Matthew 1:21-23 CHRISTMAS!

[No Sunday School]

10:15 AM

Worship Service

COMING SOON:

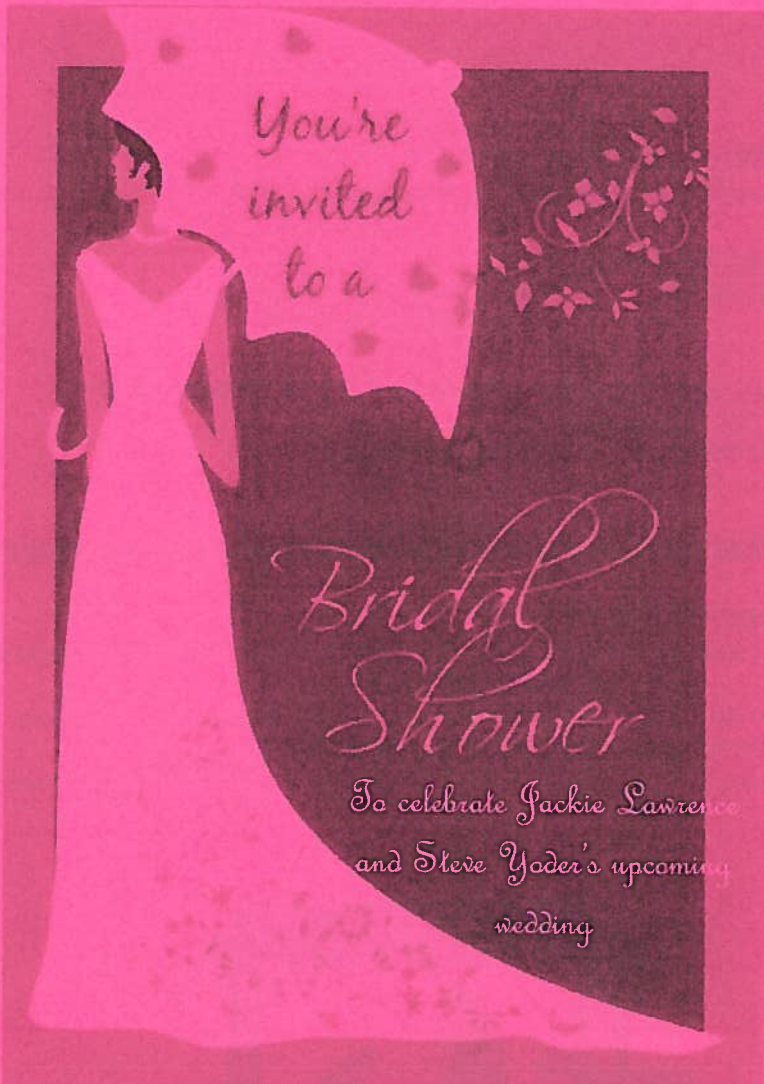
December 27-30 Winter Youth Retreat (teens 13 & up) at Broken
Arrow Bible Ranch

December 28 Alex DenBleyker / Tyler McKennon Wedding

December 30 Bridal Shower for Jackie Lawrence

January 1 No Sunday School; 10:15 AM Worship Service





Date: Friday, December 30th

Time: 6:00 pm

Place: Grace Bible Church Gathering Room

Registry: Wal-Mart and JCPenney. You can also go to MyRegistry.com to find all items.

**THE VIRGIN BIRTH:
AVOIDING THE CURSE
DETAILED IN
JEREMIAH 22:24-30!**

DAVID

MATT.1:6-17

SOLOMON

REHOBAM

ABIJAH

ASA

JEHOASH ADIAT

LUKE 3:23-31

NATHAN

MATTATHA

MIENNA

MELBA

ETIATRVA

JORAM

AHAZ

HEZEKIAH

MANASSEH

AMON

JOSIAH

LEVI

MATTHAT

ELI

MARY

JECONIAH (CONIAH,

JEHOIACHIN)

[BLOOD CLAIM TO

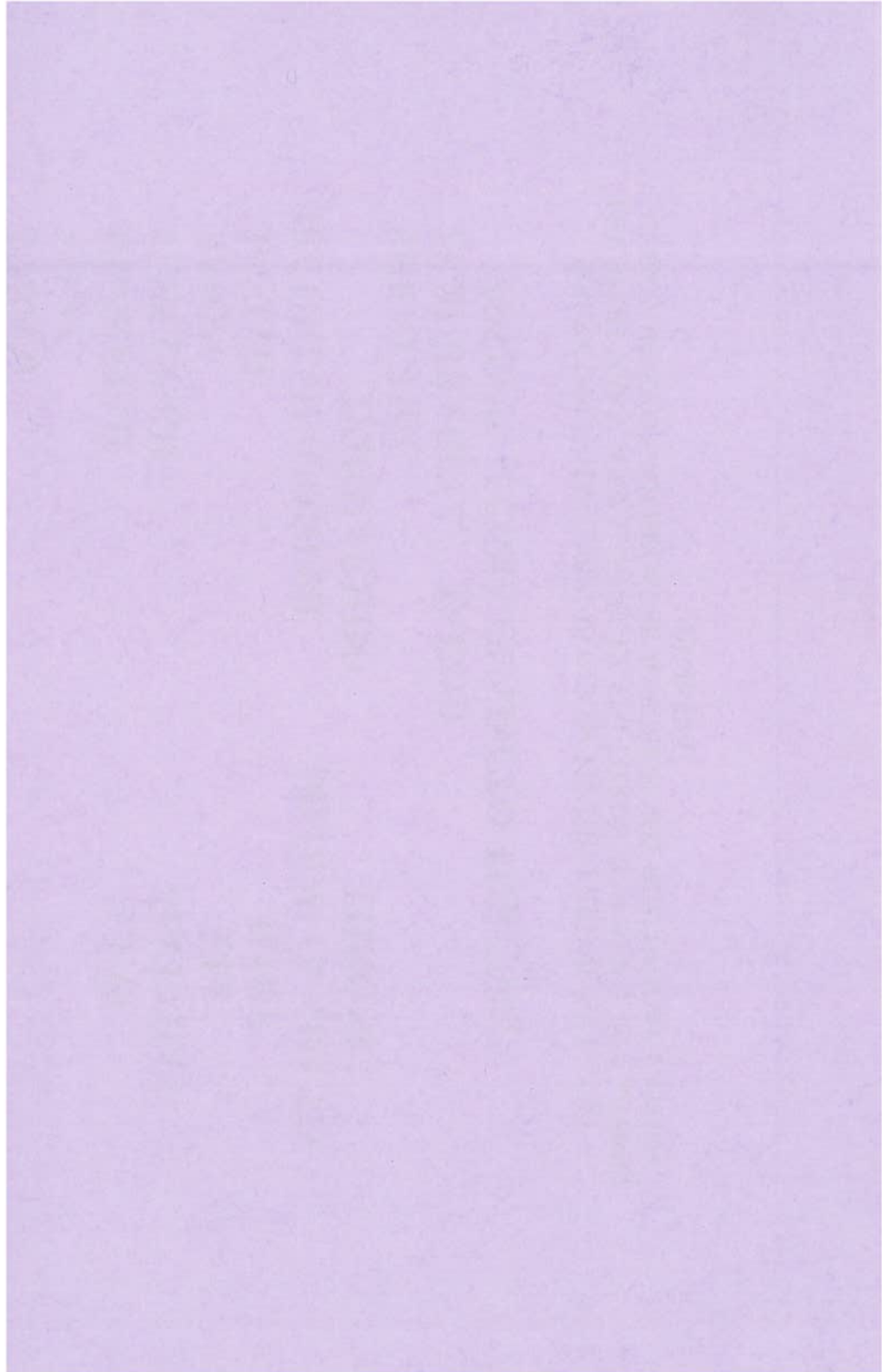
THRONE]

SHEALTIEL

ZERUBBABEL... JACOB

JOSEPH [LEGAL CLAIM TO THRONE]

**JESUS CHRIST HAS A BLOOD CLAIM TO THE THRONE OF DAVID
THROUGH MARY, AND A LEGAL CLAIM THROUGH JOSEPH, BUT AVOIDS
CURSE OF JECONIAH BECAUSE JOSEPH IS NOT BIOLOGICAL FATHER
OF JESUS.**





Bulletin

DECEMBER
2016

A PUBLICATION OF FOCUS ON THE FAMILY®

Merry Christmas!

A Simpler Celebration

BY KAYLA HEATWOLE

When my oldest daughter was two, my husband and I were excited for her to experience Christmas morning. But after opening a few presents, she looked tired and wanted to retreat into another room to be by herself. Since then, we have incorporated a few simple traditions that have helped make Christmas more calm and meaningful.

Breakfast with Jesus. Before the children wake, my husband and I prepare a healthy breakfast including muffins with candles on top. When our children get up, we read them the story of Jesus' birth, sing "Happy Birthday" to Jesus and let them blow out the candles. Remembering why we celebrate Christmas as we enjoy a delicious breakfast together is the perfect way to start the day.

Rethinking gifts. When our toddler seemed overwhelmed with lots of gifts, we scaled back to giving only two or three. Fewer presents help everyone focus on the true gift of Christmas—Jesus.

Pajama party. Like many families, we give each of our children a new pair of pajamas on Christmas Eve. The next day we allow them to wear their pajamas all day long. After opening gifts, we enjoy some quiet activities, such as reading books and watching movies. After the busy Christmas season, we all appreciate this relaxed and comforting tradition.

TOUGH QUESTIONS FROM KIDS

What was
Jesus like
when He
was little?



A Heart of Generosity

Consider the following ideas to foster a spirit of giving within your family this Christmas:

Give when you get. Encourage your kids to give away a toy every time a new one is received, or brainstorm how to “pay forward” favors from friends and neighbors. As your kids make their wish lists for Christmas, have them also make a “give list”—a list of items they plan to make, donate or buy for friends and neighbors in need.

Talk the walk. So many of life’s lessons are caught, not taught. Have you inadvertently modeled the language of discontentment, or can you say you’ve modeled a heart of generosity? In your conversations around the home, and in your family prayers, help your kids “catch” positive language that reflects your family’s desire to give and help others.

Think outside the box. Not every Christmas gift has to come wrapped in pretty paper or be fresh from the oven. Encourage your kids to think of how they can use their time and skills to give to others. Is there a neighbor who needs help with yard work or snow removal? Is there a friend at church who would love to learn how to ice-skate or play chess? Can teens babysit for a busy couple who have just welcomed a child into their home?

Make it a team effort. Spending family time meeting others’ needs, by way of service projects or ministries, helps your kids realize how much they really have. It also creates healthy patterns of “others-mindedness.” As your kids grow older, church ministries and other service opportunities will seem less intimidating because giving will have always been a part of your family culture.

—*Kate Motaung*



Singing Bedtime Prayers

My husband and I prayed the Lord’s Prayer over our two boys at bedtime, but they never responded to it. Then one evening I decided to sing it and made up a tune.

When I was done, our younger son exclaimed, “Again!” and our older son began to hum along. Eventually, both sang it with us, so we continued doing this for years.

—*Anne Skalitza*

Social Media and My Marriage

I smiled as I read a new post from a high school friend. We joked online about the songs we'd loved, the games we'd played and the boys on whom we'd had crushes. Facebook helped us re-establish an old friendship.

Then I noticed on my friend's page that one of her "friends" was an old boyfriend of mine. I knew that with one click of my mouse I could re-establish communication. Would he be excited to hear from me? The idea of reconnecting with him was tempting, but I knew that doing so would break my husband's heart.

Although Facebook can be fun, it's not always the best thing for my marriage. When I engage in social media, it's essential that I guard against any interactions

that may cause my husband to wonder which "friend" is most important in my life. Other factors to consider include:

Time. When I first began using Facebook, I was often surprised how quickly the hours passed. And sometimes the phrase "Just a minute!" was used to the detriment of the man I love. One thing that's helped me is to set limits. My time spent with online friends is now limited to 30 minutes after my husband goes to work and another 30 minutes before he comes home.

Transparency. Another goal I've set for myself is a commitment to complete transparency with my spouse. He has access to my Facebook account and is free to read my posts, comments and messages at any time. I have the same access to his account.

Respect. I strive to be positive on my Facebook page. If my husband has said or done something that frustrates me, I do not share it. Instead, I express my appreciation for him, giving him respect through my words. In this way I'm showing honor to the man I love by not participating in online gossip.

Accountability. Finally, I've asked my husband to let me know if I say or do anything to hurt or frustrate him concerning my Facebook usage. This accountability has allowed me to strengthen my marriage even as I've enjoyed the thrill of reconnecting with old friends online.

—Tricia Goyer



Family Matters

Answers to your questions . . .

When my husband and I argue, we both get frustrated with each other "not playing by the rules." Do you have any tips for us?

Answer:

In order to maintain our commitment to love, cherish and honor our spouses, we need to yield ourselves and our rights, first to God, and then to one another. We've developed several strategies to help prevent communication stalemates, blowouts and breakdowns. If you and your spouse have a difference of opinion, try approaching conflict with one or more of these guidelines in mind:

Stick to the problem at hand. Focus on the current conflict, and don't accuse your spouse of "always" or "never" behaving a certain way. Putting your spouse on the defensive is never wise.

Get on the same side of the

fence. Rather than attempting to resolve an issue "my way" or "your way," work toward a solution that represents "our way."

Try to identify the core issue. Arguments often arise because of events or issues that disguise the real problem. Consider what attitudes or beliefs are motivating your behavior for clues as to what the core issue in the conflict is.

Don't be a mind reader. Discuss your beliefs and expectations openly. Don't try to interpret your spouse's thoughts or motives from his or her behavior; instead, ask direct questions. Likewise, don't expect your spouse to know what you are thinking.

Don't let the sun go down on your anger. Settling disputes takes hard work and can also take time. If you haven't reached an agreement by bedtime, put the matter aside with

the understanding that you will resume the discussion the next day. Nursing anger overnight gives the devil a foothold (see Ephesians 4:26-27). Don't leave your marriage vulnerable.

Avoid character assassination. As you work to resolve conflict, it's okay to talk about circumstances and behavior. However, attacking your spouse's personality or character is never acceptable.

Think of the big picture. Never forget that your relationship with your spouse is far more important than "winning" an argument or "being right."

Remember that love keeps no record of wrongs. Be quick to forgive, quick to admit your own mistakes and quick to move on from the conflict.

(Adapted from the *Complete Guide to Faith-Based Family Finances* by Ron Blue with Jeremy L. White)

TOUGH QUESTIONS FROM KIDS

Answer:

When Jesus was a child, He had to learn many things, like how to hold a cup, how to talk and how to count. He learned things from His parents and went to school to learn too. But though Jesus was a real human being, He never did anything wrong. Jesus always obeyed God.

For more information on any of the topics in this bulletin, go to FocusOnTheFamily.com or call 800-A-FAMILY (232-6459). To reach Customer Service regarding your subscription, please call 800-692-9912. To check out more church resources and read the editor's thoughts, please visit us at www.tyndaleperiodicals.com.

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