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## **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

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John W. Luginbuhl, Pastor

E-mail: [john@gracebiblegallup.org](mailto:john@gracebiblegallup.org)

Steve Yoder, Youth Pastor

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# GRACE

BIBLE CHURCH

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2017**

## **WELCOME**

**9:00 AM**  
**10:15 AM**

**Sunday School (for all ages)**  
**Worship Service**

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Call to Worship

Matthew 2:1-12

Praise & Worship

Welcome / Announcements

Offering\*

Scripture Reading

Message

Steve Yoder

The Lord's Table

Closing

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- \* Children Age 3 - Grade 4 will be dismissed to Children's Church after the Offering.
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## **LATER TODAY...**

**6:00 PM**

Prayer Time (room across from Pastor John's Office)

**6:00 PM**

Youth Group (grades 6-12) meets

**6:00 PM**

Edge Group (Age 18-25)

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## 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!

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

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### 2017 YEAR VERSE:

*"You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all Your soul and with all your might."*

- Deuteronomy 6:5

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**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 unforgiven sin in your life.

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**A LIST** of December birthdays and anniversaries of GBC regular-attenders and missionaries is on the kitchen door. Please make legible additions/corrections right on the list. Thank you!

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**YOU ARE ENCOURAGED** to begin thinking about and praying about a "Year Verse" for our church for 2018! 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](mailto:john@gracebiblegallup.org). Thank you!

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**PASTOR JOHN AND LINDA** are in Phoenix this morning. They are scheduled to return to Gallup tonight. Please pray for them as they travel.

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## LADIES CHRISTMAS BANQUET

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2017, at BABR

Please read today's insert - Sign up at the table in the Foyer!

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### ALL-CHURCH CHRISTMAS CAROLING!

Monday, December 18—7:00pm

- \* Meet at the church and dress warmly
- \* Bring the whole family



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**THANK YOU** for your love and generosity! The "Pastor Appreciation" love offering totaled \$1,759 and was equally divided between our two pastors! Thank you so much for all of your prayers, words of encouragement, gifts, cards, (etc.) during the Pastors Appreciation month of October! We thank you, too, for the very wonderful church potluck as well as the "special offering" love gift to us! We are awed at God's love for us, shown through you! We most definitely feel loved, appreciated and encouraged! We appreciate YOU and thank the Lord for you! It is a privilege and blessing to serve alongside of you in the cause of Jesus Christ here at Grace Bible! Thanks again for all you have done for us! We love you!

- Pastor John & Linda, Pastor Steve & Jackie

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**This Week in Church History...** On December 8, 1981, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of student organizations holding religious services at public colleges and universities. This was one of the most significant rulings by the high court on the issue of separation of church and state in several years.

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### THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK ...

*"It was to save sinners that Christ came into the world. He did not come to help them to save themselves, nor to induce them to save themselves, nor even to enable them to save themselves. He came to save them."*

- William Hendricksen

# *Praise & Petition*

**“Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for He has visited us and accomplished redemption for His people and has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of David His servant.”**

**- Zacharias, in Luke 1:68,69**

## *Praise the Lord for:*

1. The One Who is the Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, everlasting Father, Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ Our Savior!
2. His Sovereignty over all people and events of history.
3. The wonderful Christmas season and the opportunities to tell others the real meaning of Christmas!
4. The so-great salvation that is ours through faith in Jesus Christ! Praise the Lord for His redemption of sinners like us who trust Him as Savior!

## *Petition the Lord for:*

1. A “wake-up call” for our church in the area of evangelism; opportunities during the Christmas season to share our faith in Jesus with family and friends.
2. Strength and encouragement for those who are lonely during these holiday seasons.
3. Those in our church going through difficult times.
4. That many of the children around the world - and their families - will trust Christ as Savior because of the “Operation Christmas Child” ministry!
5. Sean Begaye, in Afghanistan; Adam Sowers (S. Korea); Kyle Prendergast (Ophelia Krupica’s son), stationed (Air Force) in Germany; Jesus, Jessalyn, Nora, and Ayla Ubanda (Okinawa, Japan); Valgenia Benally (MaryLou Frame’s granddaughter), stationed (Army) in Kuwait.
6. Our President, Vice-President and staff, military advisors, military men and women.
7. Those who need the Lord’s healing touch:
  - Jeremy Richardson (brain tumor)
  - Eliza Jonkman (Schells’ granddaughter)
  - Linda Luginbuhl (chemo treatments)
  - Nellie Lee (shoulder surgery)
  - Janice Weber (recovering from surgery)

# Grace Bible Church Secretary

The church office is looking for paid, part-time secretarial help.

## Job Details:

- **Starts as soon as possible**
- **Position is for Monday and Thursday each week, 9:00am-5:00pm (one-hour, non-paid, lunch break)**
- **Work is at the church office**
- **Total of 14 hours per week**
- **\$12-\$14 per hour, depending on experience**

## Job Requirements:

- **Must have secretarial experience**
- **Must be "computer literate" & a good typist**
- **Must have organizational skills**
- **Must be an official member of the church, or if not, be willing to become an official member of the church by January 31, 2018**
- **Must have been a regular-attender of Grace Bible Church for at least the past six months**
- **Will be under the supervision of Pastor John**
- **Will work as a team with Linda Luginbuhl and Betsy Branson.**

*Note: This is a part-time position. There are no paid holidays, no paid time-off, and no health, dental, vision (etc.) benefits.*

**Resumes can be given to either  
Linda Luginbuhl or Betsy Branson up  
through Friday, December 8, 2017**

Questions?

Please contact Pastor John, Linda Luginbuhl or Betsy Branson

## **THIS WEEK AT GRACE BIBLE ...**

(Here at the church unless otherwise noted.)

### **Monday, December 4**

**7:00 PM** [Luginbuhls' Life Group resumes Jan. 8]

**7:00 PM** Impact Life Group  
(20s & 30s Young Professionals) Bible Study at  
Steve & Jackie Yoder's, 3607 Chaco Dr., Gallup

### **Tuesday, December 5**

**9:30 AM** Ladies' Bible Study

**6:30 PM** Faith Bible Institute

### **Wednesday, December 6**

**6:30 PM** AWANA  
(Don't forget your "Toys for Tots" toy!)

### **Saturday, December 9**

**8-9 AM** Men's Breakfast at Don Diego's  
Restaurant—801 West Hwy 66, Gallup

**5:00 PM** Ladies' Christmas Banquet at BABR  
(See Insert)



## **COMING SOON ...**

**December 15 (5 - 9 PM)**

Youth Progressive Dinner &  
Holiday Hayride

**December 18 (7 PM)**

All-Church Christmas Caroling

**December 24 (7-8 PM)**

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

**YOU'RE INVITED TO THE  
LADIES ANNUAL  
CHRISTMAS BANQUET**

Saturday, December 9th

Broken Arrow Bible Ranch Chapel

5 pm

\$9 per person

Sign up at the table  
in the foyer

***Gift Exchange: Socks and Sweets***

***Please bring new Christmas socks filled  
with sweets for our gift exchange***





## significant news for christians

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

# THE Church Around the WORLD

December 2017



## Country in Focus: Brunei (1)

The nation of Brunei consists of two small enclaves on the island of Borneo with a population of 500,000. Brunei is one of the richest states in Asia, with free education and health care, no income tax for most, and heavily subsidized housing, fuel, and food. Oil accounts for 90 percent of the country's exports, although oil resources are slowly being reduced. The sultan rules as an absolute monarch.

Islam is the state religion of Brunei, and constitutional guarantees for the free practice of other religions are often ignored. It is illegal to proselytize and illegal for a Muslim to convert to another religion. The Christian church in Brunei exists under very difficult conditions. Importing Bibles and Christian literature is illegal for ministry purposes, but not for personal use.

Prayer concerns:

- The perseverance, boldness, and unity of the small Christian church in Brunei;
- An increase in trained pastors and church leaders—virtually every Bible study and underground church is led by an untrained layperson;
- Christian witness to Brunei's tribal minorities and ethnic Chinese;
- That the Christian faith will increase in the small but growing expatriate workforce. Most are Bangladeshis, Filipinos, and Indonesians. The presence of many Filipino believers holds great potential for reaching the majority of the unreached.

## Wisconsin Court Rules for Christian Photographer (2)

A Wisconsin court has declared that a Christian photographer should not be forced to provide her services to same-sex weddings. Amy Lawson, a 25-year-old independent photographer, posted a statement on her website last year explaining her stance on same-sex marriage and clarifying that she

would not provide services for same-sex weddings.

Lawson received backlash against her convictions on this issue. Because state and city laws left her vulnerable to being sued, Lawson filed a pre-enforcement challenge. The Dane County Circuit Court, which heard Lawson's case, has issued a ruling declaring Lawson to be exempt from state laws that prohibit a place of public accommodation from refraining from serving customers based

Continued on page 2

on their sexual orientation. The court issued this ruling based on the fact that Lawson does not own a brick-and-mortar business and also because the antidiscrimination laws would restrict her artistic freedom.

"The court's announcement has important implications for everyone in Wisconsin who values artistic freedom," said senior counsel Jonathan Scruggs of the Alliance Defending Freedom, the Christian nonprofit defending Lawson. "It means that government officials must allow creative professionals without

storefronts anywhere in the city and state the freedom to make their own decisions about which ideas they will use their artistic expression to promote."

## Australian Court Blocks Synagogue Construction<sup>(3)</sup>

An Australian court has upheld a decision by a local municipal council in Sydney to block the construction of a Jewish synagogue over fears that it could be a target of terrorism. Australia's Land and Environmental Court



## This month you can... Help Your Church Understand the Risks of Global Missions

**W**hen was the last time you heard your church talk about global missionary work and terrorism? Global missions can seem romantic to many Christians, but danger and persecution often accompany such work. Zach Bradley for the Gospel Coalition points out four things that local churches can do to help their global missionaries.

- 1. Lead members to count the cost.** Church leaders should never promise a safe trip home for missionaries, even though it would make everyone feel better. Understanding the risk means missionaries will understand why they're going and what they need to do there.
- 2. Partner with like-minded mission agencies.** Mission agencies are more likely to understand the threat of specific areas and the current

terror level than the sending church. These mission agencies also usually have teams on the ground that are working long term and are familiar with the culture and customs of the locale. But the sending church needs to do its own research as well, and the team needs to be aware of the cultural climate before they step foot on a plane.

- 3. Care for those you've sent.** Missionaries need to feel connected to the church that sent them; they need to be encouraged, communicated with, and prayed for often. It's tempting to think of global missionaries as super Christians, but they have the same needs as anyone else. The more disconnected they feel, the less encouraged they will be.
- 4. Have a plan for how to respond to tragedy.** Though it

is unlikely that a member of the team will not return, it is certainly possible. If something happens, the church must have a plan.

Additionally, here are four suggestions to help your church be more aware of the reality and risk of global missions:

- 1. Host a weekly prayer night** for the persecuted church and global missionaries.
- 2. Incorporate prayers** for the church's missionaries into corporate prayer time.
- 3. Assign each small group or Bible study a missionary team** to pray for and send letters to (if possible).
- 4. Have your church evaluate** the types of mission trips it hosts and follow up with previous trips to see how beneficial the trip was for evangelism and helping those already in the field.



## Church Around the WORLD

backed a decision by the Waverley Council to prohibit the construction of the synagogue in Sydney's world-famous Bondi Beach suburb.

According to the ruling, the proposed synagogue's site "raises concerns as to the safety and security of future users of the Synagogue, nearby residents, motorists, and pedestrians in Wellington Street and the physical measures proposed to deal with the identified threats will have an unacceptable impact on the streetscape and adjoining properties."

Australian Jewish leaders expressed shock over the court's decision, saying it will prevent them from practicing their religion freely. "The decision is unprecedented," said Rabbi Yehoram Ulman, spokesman for the Friends of Refugees of Eastern Europe. "Its implications are enormous. It basically implies that no Jewish organization should be allowed to exist in residential areas. It stands to stifle Jewish existence and activity in Sydney and indeed, by creating a precedent, the whole of Australia, and by extension [to reward] terrorism."

### Chinese Pastor Told to Join Government Church or Be Monitored (4)

Authorities in China's southern Guangdong province have given a house-church pastor an ultimatum: join the state-run church or be subjected to extensive government monitoring. Officials told Ma Ke, pastor of Guangfu Church, that the church could either become part of

the Three-Self Patriotic Movement or comply with specialized personnel sent to watch the congregation. The church refused the first option, citing a belief that house churches and Three-Self churches follow different theological avenues and saying that their church already experiences surveillance.

Guangfu Church has been a constant target of government persecution over the past few years. After accusing church members of "organizing illegal religious activities," authorities banned all of the church's meeting places in 2015 and confiscated some of its materials. Undeterred, the church members still met outside of their building's walls, and Ma filed an administrative lawsuit in an attempt to make officials revoke their decision. His requests were rejected, which prompted him to seek an audience with higher officials, but those requests were declined as well.

### Cambodia Orders Expulsion of Christian Group (5)

Cambodia has ordered the expulsion of an American Christian group that rescues child sex slaves. The group was featured in a recent CNN report, which Cambodian prime minister Hun Sen called "insulting."

The authoritarian prime minister called for the closure of Agape International Missions (AIM) after CNN interviewed three girls from the Svay Pak area near the capital city who had reportedly been sold into the sex trade by

their impoverished mothers and later rescued by AIM.

“This is a serious insult,” Hun Sen was quoted as saying. “In many countries, for only drawing cartoons their magazine must be shut down, but in our country, we are insulted to the point of saying that mothers sold children to become prostitutes. We cannot accept this big insult, and we are going to close the NGO involved.”

Established in 1988, AIM is based in California and run in Cambodia by American pastor Don Brewster. AIM has helped rescue more than 700 people with the help of local police over the past dozen years.

## Report: 1 in 10 US Protestant Churches Experience Embezzlement <sup>(2)</sup>

Churches and other faith groups collect tens of billions of dollars in donations each year. But not all of that money ends up where it’s supposed to. About 1 in 10 Protestant churches have had someone embezzle funds, according to a new survey of 1,000 Protestant senior pastors from LifeWay Research.

That figure isn’t surprising, according to LifeWay executive director Scott McConnell. Most churches rely on volunteers to handle their finances, and those volunteers are usually honest. But churches often lack systems to catch those who aren’t. As a result, McConnell said, money that could have been used for ministry goes missing.

Overall, 9 percent of pastors surveyed said

that their churches have had funds embezzled, while 91 percent said they were not aware of any embezzlement. The Association of Certified Fraud Examiners found that in cases involving churches or other charitable groups, the average loss was \$82,000.

## Scottish Episcopal Church Holds First Same-Sex Wedding <sup>(6)</sup>

The first same-sex marriage in an Anglican church in Britain took place recently. The couple was married at St. John’s Episcopal Church in the center of Edinburgh with the Reverend Markus Dünzkofer, rector of St. John’s, officiating.

In June, the Scottish Episcopal Church, which is part of the Anglican Communion, announced that it was allowing same-sex weddings after its synod voted to amend its canon law on marriage. The synod agreed the law stating that marriage was between one man and one woman should be removed.

Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby has described the continuing debate over same-sex marriage in the worldwide Anglican Communion as “intractable.” Anglican national churches in Brazil, South Africa, South India, New Zealand, and Canada have taken steps toward approving and celebrating same-sex relationships amid strong resistance from other national churches within the 80-million-member global body. The Episcopal Church in the US has allowed same-sex marriage since 2015.

*To check out books and other church resources, please visit [www.TyndaleDirect.com](http://www.TyndaleDirect.com).*

**The LORD is far from the wicked, but he hears the prayers of the righteous.**

PROVERBS 15:29

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