



*Welcome  
Home*

**WELCOME HOME**

LUKE 15:11-24, ACTS 2:36-47

MARCH 4, 2018

# GRACE

## BIBLE CHURCH

### WELCOME HOME ...

*where we live by faith in Christ, are a voice  
of hope for all, and are known by love.*

### 2018 YEAR VERSE:

**SEEK THE LORD AND HIS STRENGTH. SEEK HIS FACE CONTINUALLY.**

- 1 CHRONICLES 16:11

## GET CONNECTED

---

#### **ADULT CONNECT GROUP**

**Mondays | 7 PM**

Luginbuhl Home (303 Cactus Road)

#### **IMPACT CONNECT GROUP (20's - 30's Young Professionals)**

**Mondays | 7 PM**

Yoder Home (3607 Chaco Drive)

#### **LADIES CONNECT GROUP**

**Tuesdays | 9:30 AM**

GBC (Nursery Available)

#### **AWANA**

**Wednesdays | 6:30 PM**

Ages 3 - Grade 8

#### **YOUTH GROUP**

**Sundays | 6 - 8 PM**

Grades 6 - 12

#### **EDGE**

**Sundays | 6 PM**

Ages 18 -25

#### **PRAYER TIME**

**Sundays | 6 PM**

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

*what's happening at Grace Bible ...*

## 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.

## GBC DIRECTORY SIGN-UPS

**TODAY | FOYER**

If Grace Bible is your home church, we'd love for you to be a part of the 2018 Grace Bible Directory! Lifetouch will be here Tuesday, March 27, Wednesday, March 28, Thursday, March 29 from 1 - 8 PM, and Saturday, March 31 from 9 AM - 5 PM, to take your family's photo. Sign-up today to reserve a time for your photo session!

## DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

**MARCH 10**

If you live in New Mexico or in Arizona and on the Navajo Reservation, don't forget to set your clocks forward 1 hour THIS Saturday night!

## EASTER 2018

**APRIL 1**

Easter is right around the corner, and as we prepare for an amazing time celebrating the resurrection of Jesus, we encourage you to be praying about who you're going to invite to hear the message of hope! We look forward to seeing the unbelievable work of God at Grace Bible Church where people's lives are changed forever! Also...sign-up for our free Easter breakfast (8:30 AM - 9:30 AM) using your Connect Card.

# FOLLOW US

---



FACEBOOK.COM/GRACEBIBLEGALLUP



GRACEBIBLEGALLUP.ORG

# WAYS TO GIVE

---



## IN PERSON

Drop your gift into the offering during service.



## MAIL

Mail your gift to:  
222 Boulder Drive  
Gallup, NM 87301



## ONLINE

Give online at our website.



## TEXT

TEXT 84321, once you've set-up your online account.



## RECURRING

Set-up recurring payments using your online account.

## CONTACT US:

**JOHN LUGINBUHL** | SENIOR PASTOR  
john@gracebiblegallup.org

**STEVE YODER** | YOUTH PASTOR  
forevertrustinghim@yahoo.com

## SERVICE TIMES:

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**  
9 - 10AM

**WEEKEND SERVICE**  
10:15AM



222 BOULDER DRIVE, GALLUP NM 87301 | 505.722.5114

March 4, 2018

# WELCOME HOME

PART 2: WELCOME HOME | Galatians 2:16-21; Hebrews 11:1-6

---

## WELCOME HOME ...

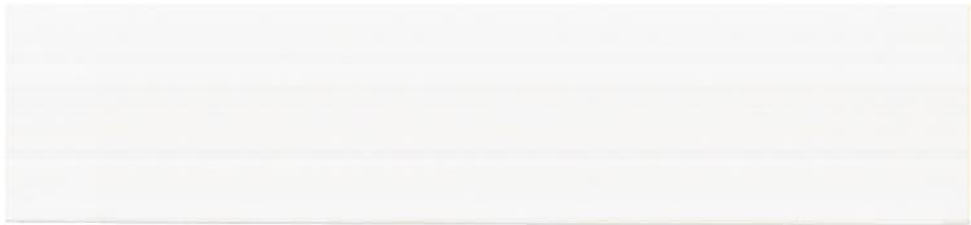
*where we live by faith in Christ, are a voice  
of hope for all, and are known by love.*

These words describe who we are as a family here at Grace Bible Church. They describe what we desire to *continue* to be as well! Indeed, they are the driving force behind everything we do here at Grace Bible. They shape our present plans and our plans for the future. We looked last week at the "Welcome Home!" part of the statement. This morning, we'll look at the meaning of, "Where we live by faith in Christ."

### 1. What is Faith?

### 2. Faith in Christ

### 3. Living By Faith



# COLLEGE & MILITARY CARE PACKAGES

The EDGE Group is sending out Care Packages to College Students and Military Personnel to let them know we're thinking of them!



## DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO NEEDS A CARE PACKAGE?



Just fill out their information below and drop it in the offering, or you can give it to Rachel or Jeff Irving. **Please make sure all addresses are complete and accurate. DEADLINE IS MARCH 4, 2018.**

We also need **DONATIONS**, and would love your contribution! Please mark your donations and leave them on the island in the kitchen. We hope to put together **20** boxes!

### DONATION IDEAS:

Encouragement Notes & Cards  
School Supplies  
Movie Rental Certificates  
Microwave Popcorn  
Fast Food/Coffee Shop Certificates  
Hot Chocolate, Coffee, Tea  
Peanut Butter

Questions? Contact Betsy at 505.778.5936, Jeff at 505.979.2445, or Rachel at 505.728.0519

Homemade Goodies  
Small Boxed Cereal or Oatmeal  
Stationary & Stamps  
Dried Fruit  
Breakfast Bars

.....  
RECIPIENT'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
SUBMITTED BY \_\_\_\_\_





# Tell Your Story

Be included in our upcoming  
photography event



For participating,  
each family receives a

**complimentary  
8x10 photograph  
& a free directory**



**Be yourself.** Classic, casual,  
musical, sporty, fun – it's up to you.  
(No tie required!)



**Make it special.** Bring meaningful  
items and special people.

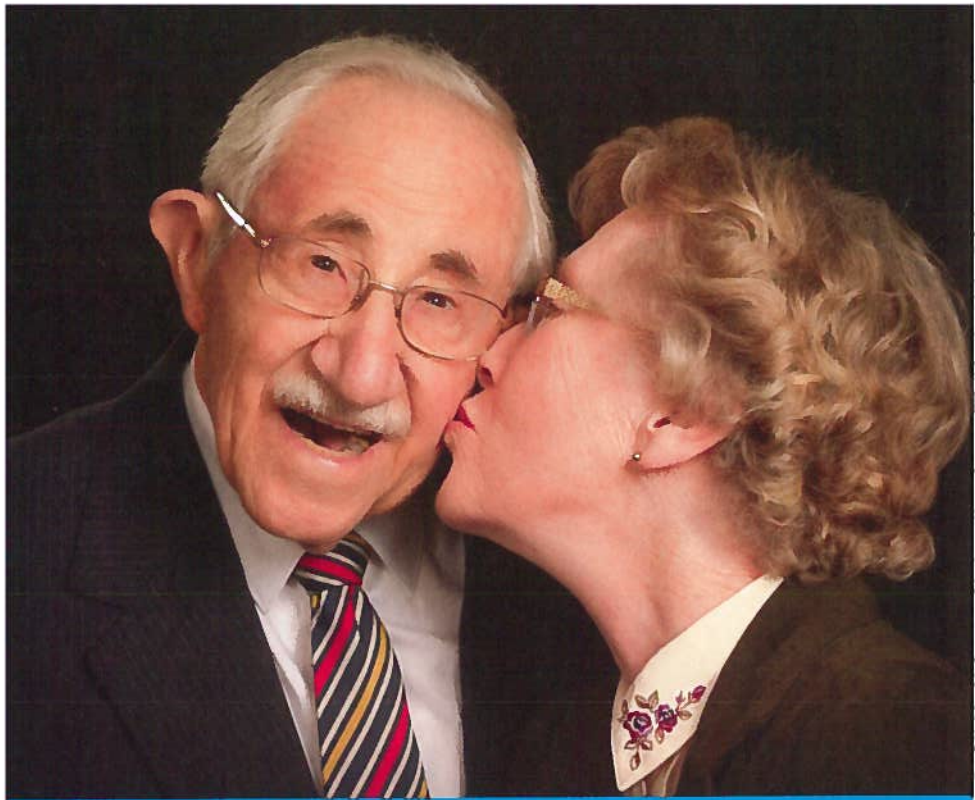
**Share your story.** You will have  
the opportunity to purchase  
additional photographs – makes  
great gifts for family and friends.



**Schedule your professional  
photography session today!**

*Lifetouch*<sup>®</sup>

Connecting You through  
Family Photography



Photography tells your story



cherish your memories

**Married 52 years**

**4 children**

**12 grandchildren (and one more on the way)**

**New tie?**

Nope, had it for years

**Does she still surprise you?**

Every day!

## significant news for christians

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

# THE Church Around the WORLD

March 2018



## Country in Focus: Djibouti (1)

Djibouti—a small, hot, dry desert country on the Gulf of Aden between Eritrea and Somalia—is home to more than one million people. Lack of water and arable land makes the country dependent on French aid and large French and American military bases. Djibouti has a deep water port, which, as a free-trade zone, is one of the country's major economic assets. Islam is the religion of the state and of almost every native, but there is considerable religious freedom for foreigners. Djibouti is Africa's third-smallest state and is a haven of calm in a stormy region.

### Prayer concerns:

- The country's serious social and economic problems—extreme unemployment has given rise to problems with human trafficking, prostitution, and drug abuse.
- Mission work in Djibouti is a challenge. The desert climate makes working conditions extreme. Physical and spiritual oppression, economic disparity, ethnic tensions, and a paucity of believers can easily lead to discouragement among mission staff.
- Several evangelical fellowships exist among immigrant groups, and they are trying to reach unreached people groups in the country.
- The few Somali and Afar believers—the two main people groups in Djibouti—are often isolated and suffer many pressures from relatives.
- A recently translated New Testament is available in the Afar language and is also being translated in audio recordings—a vital tool since illiteracy is widespread.

## Canada Rejects Christian Couple for Adoption (2)

A married Canadian couple is suing the Alberta government after being rejected as adoptive parents because of their Christian beliefs. The couple applied to adopt with Alberta's Child and Family Services. They

were interested in adopting a hard-to-place older child or sibling group. Their case was assigned to Catholic Social Services in Edmonton, Alberta, which completed psychological and financial evaluations and prepared a home-study report.

During the home study, the social worker asked the couple about their beliefs regarding homosexuality. The couple said they held

*Continued on page 2*

biblical views on marriage and sexuality but would unconditionally love and respect a child questioning his or her sexuality or gender. The social worker enthusiastically recommended to Child and Family Services

that the applicants be approved.

Later, Catholic Social Services told the couple that Child and Family Services had additional questions for them about homosexuality. In response, the couple wrote,



## This month you can... Welcome Strangers

*"Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it" (Hebrews 13:1).*

Many churches struggle to show a welcome to strangers. If you have an immigrant population in your local area, here are some practical steps your church can take to welcome them:

**1. Encourage members of the congregation to highlight their ethnic origin.** Make your church a place where people take pride in their heritage. Next time there's a potluck dinner, invite everyone to bring a dish that reflects their nationality. Have each person include a place card that names the dish and country of origin along with their name. If there is time, have people briefly tell about their dish and their family story. In your Bible study or small group, ask each person to share a story of their family and how they or their ancestors came to America. You can also ask members of your congregation who speak a second language to wear a badge at church services identifying that language for visitors.

**2. Partner with a refugee resettlement group in your city.** Those who come to the US as refugees are often fleeing war, persecution, or other difficult circumstances requiring them to uproot the entire family and find a new home. Many churches have members of the congregation help an immigrant family get acclimated to their new culture and environment. World Relief is the primary agency working with evangelical churches, but depending on your community, another agency may be helping local churches assist with resettling refugees.

**3. Offer English classes to members of the community.** Learning English is a high priority for many immigrants and those visiting the US on a student or other temporary visa. Lack of language skills creates barriers for career advancement and is the primary reason why many legal permanent residents do not pursue citizenship. Immigrants who do speak English often need help with colloquialisms or with forms for schools or medical appointments.

**4. Tutor citizenship candidates.** Millions of legal permanent residents have never

become US citizens because they fear they cannot pass the language test or the citizenship test. Consider offering citizenship classes at your church. Even those who are already US citizens can learn a great deal about the US and the laws that govern this country. And attending the swearing-in ceremony is a great way to support the new American citizens in your community.

**5. Offer a legal aid clinic.** Immigrants are often victimized by unscrupulous lawyers and criminals who prey on their fears. Simply finding trustworthy immigration attorneys in your area and offering a free clinic on a Saturday would help many in your community who don't know where to turn. Lawyers in your congregation can help make contacts, or you can contact a refugee resettlement agency for direction. Businesspeople in the congregation might also offer basic information about finding work, filing taxes, and other skills necessary to become part of the workforce.

By welcoming newcomers, your church can bring the foreign mission field to the front door.



## Church Around the WORLD

“Biblical principles are the foundation of our home. As such we believe that homosexuality is wrong. Gender and sexuality are determined at birth, and God has given parameters for people to enjoy the gift of sex—within the confines of marriage between a man and a woman.” But the couple noted again that they would love and accept a child placed in their home, regardless of his or her sexuality, and said, “Ultimately, a parent’s love is not, and should not be, given based on the decisions or actions of a child. It’s unconditional and filled with grace and mercy.”

A few days later, Catholic Social Services reversed its recommendation for approval, stating that the couple wouldn’t be able to help a child with “sexual identity issues.” After their application was officially denied, the couple filed suit; a hearing for the case will likely be set later this year.

### UK Group Lists Worst Countries for Religious Freedom <sup>(3)</sup>

The United Kingdom All Party Parliamentary Group has released a report listing 10 of the worst countries for religious freedom. The report cites violations to Article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which protects religious liberty. According to the report, almost 80 percent of the world’s population lives in countries with “high” or “very high” levels of restrictions and/or

hostilities toward certain beliefs.

The report identified the following ten countries, along with the religious groups affected:

- Eritrea (evangelical Christians)
- Egypt (Coptic Christians)
- UK (Jews and Muslims)
- Russia (Jehovah’s Witnesses)
- Saudi Arabia (atheists and Shia Muslims)
- Iran (Bahá’ís)
- China (Falun Gong)
- Vietnam (Hoa Hao Buddhists)
- Myanmar (Rohingya Muslims)
- Bangladesh (Hindus)

### Chinese Village Asked to Replace Posters of Jesus <sup>(4)</sup>

Christians in a village in southeastern China have been asked to replace their posters of Jesus Christ with posters and photos of Chinese president Xi Jinping if they want relief from poverty and illness.

Xi has publicly said that he is working to end poverty by 2020. That work includes government visits to Christian families to encourage them to follow Communist Party policies.

“Many poor households have plunged into poverty because of illness in the family. Some resorted to believing in Jesus to cure their illnesses,” said Qi Yan, chairman of the Huangjinbu people’s congress. “But we tried to

tell them that getting ill is a physical thing and that the people who can really help them are the Communist Party and General Secretary Xi.”

The Huangjinbu township gave more than 1,000 portraits of Xi to village families.

## Church of Sweden Adopts Gender-Neutral Language

The Church of Sweden’s board has voted to change how clergy refer to God the Father, switching out terms like *Lord* and *He* for the more gender-neutral term *God*. The changes go into effect this year.

Clergy can still use the phrase “In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit” but are also permitted to use “In the name of God and the Holy Trinity.”

“Theologically, for instance, we know that God is beyond our gender determinations, God is not human,” said Archbishop Antje Jackelen, head of the Church of Sweden, who added that more inclusive language had been discussed as early as the church’s 1986 conference.

The Church of Sweden makes up more than 60 percent of the country’s population, boasting 6.1 million members.

## Church Closures in Egypt on the Rise (5)

Persecution watchdog group International Christian Concern (ICC) reports that it is becoming standard practice for Egyptian authorities to close a church whenever a Muslim mob forms to attack Christians and churches.

“Mobs will form, or violent groups, or an individual will realize . . . ‘All I have to do is

give an appearance that some violence will occur,’” ICC’s Claire Evans explained. “You just have to complain to the authorities—and the authorities will respond by closing down the church.” Evans continued, “[Egyptian authorities will] say they’re doing it for security reasons—to protect Christians, but it’s not protecting them and it’s just encouraging this kind of activity unfortunately.”

## Hindu Father Throws Out Family Who Converted (6)

Ramesh Kuman, a Hindu father in Northern India, has reportedly beaten and thrown out his wife and four children who decided to convert to Christianity, cutting them off financially and demanding they abandon their devotion to Jesus. The family’s eldest son, 23-year-old Neeraj, has been using his small wage as a shop clerk to provide for his mother and his three siblings, who are still students.

Kumar also claimed in a police report that his family tried to force him to go to church and change his religion and alleged that his son threatened to kill him if he did not become a Christian. He placed a local newspaper ad that accuses his family members of attacking him and states that he is not responsible for what happens to them.

Christians in a number of Indian provinces have faced violent beatings for their faith and have been falsely accused by authorities and Hindu radicals of trying to forcefully convert people.

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

**This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!**

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17