



# GRACE NEWS

Grace Community Church  
An Evangelical Presbyterian Church  
16165 W. Mountain View Blvd.  
Surprise, AZ 85374  
(623) 975-9038



August 2013

## SHARING THE GOOD THINGS HAPPENING IN THE LIFE OF OUR CHURCH

### ***"Am I My Brother's Keeper?"***

After the "*Fall of Man*" (recorded in Genesis chapter 3), it seemed inevitable that murder would ensue. In Genesis chapter 4:7, God warned Cain that ***"sin was crouching at the door; and its desire is for you, but you must master it."*** Continuing in verse 9 we read: ***"Then the Lord said to Cain, 'Where is Abel your brother?' And he said, 'I do not know. Am I my brother's keeper?'"*** And God said, ***"What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood is crying to me from the ground"*** [Genesis 4:10].

And, of course, we all know the answer to the question: *"Am I my brother's keeper?"* In *%Our Daily Bread* for Friday, August 2 the storyline makes mention of 2 Corinthians 1:3-7 and especially verse 7 where it says: ***"and our hope for you is firmly grounded, knowing that as you are sharers of our sufferings, so also you are sharers of our comfort."***

From this daily devotional the writer begins by saying, *%We* noticed through the years that those who have suffered are quick to comfort other sufferers.+He goes on to say, *%Again* and again we see the body of Christ supporting and encouraging one another. These Christians have learned that they can use the trials they*%* been through to reach out to others going through similar difficulties.+

As your under-shepherd for these twelve years, I am continually amazed and gratified as to the ways the people of Grace Community Church reach out to one another; both in difficult times as well as in times of rejoicing! Yes, even when many of our members are away for extended periods of time. Let me cite just two examples. Henry Wilson was recently diagnosed with pancreatic cancer (stage 3). But Henry and his wife, Barbara, are not facing this dire situation alone. Through the church's *"Phone Tree"*, news of Henry's condition was passed on to others in the church. Prayers are being offered on his behalf on a daily basis. Then, too, Anne Bakos, at her home in Rochester, MI, was recently diagnosed with another form of cancer; although her surgeon suspected that the mass was possibly benign. Once again, prayers went out on her behalf. And like so many times before, God was quick to answer the prayers of the righteous! Although Anne still had to undergo surgery, the growth was benign. And for this we give our thanks and praise to God!

I am reminded of the words of James, the half-brother of our Lord Jesus, who wrote: ***"Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praises. Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the Name of the Lord; and the prayer offered in faith will restore the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up,...The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much"*** [James 5:13-16].

The writer of this storyline from *"Our Daily Bread"* closed with these words: *%May* we never leave someone to suffer alone. If we know the trail another is on, God will help us to guide that person to his presence-the surest comfort of all.+And then this *%little* gem of wisdom+appeared at the bottom of the page: ***"God comforts us so that we can comfort others!"***

To the people of Grace, I commend you for continuing to extend brotherly love to those who are in need. Keep doing what you have always done and give thanks to God in all thingsō now and always!

Have a care,  
Pastor Cooper

## Finance Committee Report

For the month of June our unrestricted contributions were \$25,290.00 and our expenses were \$36,236.82. Contributions for the first three Sundays in July were \$ 19,213.00 .

### Facilities Maintenance Fund

Contributions to the Facilities Maintenance Fund totaled \$595.00 for the month of June. This fund is used for building and maintenance expenses and to cover emergency costs that may arise.

### Eve's Place

Eve's Place is a safe haven of hope for abused men, women and children in the Northwest Valley. The organization began in March 2006 and has shown tremendous growth in providing protection, housing, numerous services and also assisting occupants in transitioning to an abuse free life. Eve's place has also opened two very successful thrift stores. Women's Ministry supports Eve's Place by providing clothing, food, monetary donations, home furnishings, etc.

As summer is drawing to a close and you may be rearranging your closets please remember donations to Eve's Place. There is a location in our Resource Center to place any items you may want to donate. Forms for charitable donations for tax purposes are also available in the Resource Center. For larger items (furniture etc.) please call 623-583-1434 for pick-up services.

### Friendship Day

August 4

Make new friends, but keep the old  
One is Silver and the other is Gold

## August Birthdays

8/02 Miriam Simmons  
8/03 Donna Thompson  
8/05 Dorothy Cleaver  
8/08 Jo Anne Williams  
8/12 Bud Merkel  
8/18 Earl Ellsworth  
8/21 Sandra Higginbotham  
8/21 Sharon Walior  
8/22 Dave Crockett  
8/22 Jim Fraser  
8/22 Pat Sontheimer  
8/23 Steve Jones  
8/24 Sandy Hensley  
8/24 Jack Moody  
8/24 Ginny Shick  
8/25 Jan Baldridge  
8/25 Bobbie Chapman  
8/26 Urmiah Lynch  
8/27 Darlene Coulson  
8/27 Sue Mobley  
8/31 Bill Scoville  
8/31 Terry Beth



## Missionary Birthdays

8/20 Christine Hamilton

## Happy Birthday!

## August Anniversaries

8/01 Mike & Ewalee Michalis  
8/05 Ralph & Dorothy Cleaver  
8/18 Wes & Ileta Johnson  
8/19 Ron & Alana Mraz  
8/24 Paul & Kathy Battiste  
8/25 Ken & Mary Bell  
8/25 Gary & Pat Hall  
8/28 Don & Claire Anderson  
8/29 Malcolm & Norman Matheson  
8/29 Roger & Joy Wood  
8/31 Bill & Betty Scovil



## Happy Anniversary!

### New address for Bobbie Chapman

8648 W. Salter  
Peoria, AZ 85382  
Phone 623-399-9191

# August 2013

## Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
<div> <div> Jul 2013 <table> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> <tr><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td></tr> <tr><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td></tr> <tr><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> <div> Sep 2013 <table> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> <tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td></tr> <tr><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td></tr> <tr><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td></tr> <tr><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> </div>				S	M	T	W	T	F	S		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31				S	M	T	W	T	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30						1	2	3
S	M	T	W	T	F	S																																																																																				
	1	2	3	4	5	6																																																																																				
7	8	9	10	11	12	13																																																																																				
14	15	16	17	18	19	20																																																																																				
21	22	23	24	25	26	27																																																																																				
28	29	30	31																																																																																							
S	M	T	W	T	F	S																																																																																				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7																																																																																				
8	9	10	11	12	13	14																																																																																				
15	16	17	18	19	20	21																																																																																				
22	23	24	25	26	27	28																																																																																				
29	30																																																																																									
4 10:00 AM Worship 1:00 PM Korean Church Service	5 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast at Denny's	6 8:30 AM Bible Study 9:45 AM Prayer Service <b>Sherry away, she returns 8/22</b>	7	8	9	10																																																																																				
11 10:00 AM Worship 1:00 PM Korean Church Service	12	13 8:30 AM Bible Study 9:45 AM Prayer Service	14	15	16	17																																																																																				
18 10:00 AM Worship/New Beg. 1:00 PM Korean Church Service	19	20 8:30 AM Bible Study 9:45 AM Prayer Service	21	22	23	24																																																																																				
25 10:00 AM Worship 1:00 PM Korean Church Service	26	27 8:30 AM Bible Study 9:45 AM Prayer Service 1:00 PM New Beginnings Bible Study	28 9:00 AM Deacons Meeting	29	30	31																																																																																				