

“Be courageously persistent in prayer...” Colossians 4:2



Welcome to the Grace Brethren Church of Norwalk

August 30, 2015
Services Today at Grace —

Sunday School: 9:30am

Class: 3 - 5 yrs. old (Kinder.)

Teacher: Caroll Ann Perkins

Class: 4th - 6th grade (5A)

Teacher: Robin Predmore

Class: Adults (6B)

Teacher: Dave Goodwyn

Class: Young Adults

Teacher: Vet Gonzalez

Class: 1st - 3rd grade (KIDMO)

Teacher: Lisa Patton

Class: DRIVEN (Jr. & Sr. High)

Teacher: Timothy Lansing

Class: Adults (Conf. Rm.)

Teacher: Ron Muir

Praise & Worship Service: 10:45am

Children’s Church for 3-5 years old & K-3rd grade after opening

Those Serving Today at Grace —

Ushers for the month of August:

Robert Kimsey, Victor Pearce, Ron Muir, Steven Yrineo

Nursery – Today 8/30

9:15am Jennifer Gonzalez
Clansy Cabrera

10:30am Dee Muir
Susan Klements

Nursery – Next Week 9/6

9:15am Dee Muir
Susan Klements

10:30am Laura Kimsey
Josie Lankford

Happy Anniversary —

Marcus & Josie Lankford September 3

Tony & Mini DeLuna September 4

Happy Birthday —

Patty Morales September 1

Joanna Selmanson September 3

Glenn Wilson September 3

Events This Week —

FAMILY NIGHT: ABS, DRIVEN & ROCK Wed., 6:45pm

Ladies’ Psalms Study Fri., 10:00am

Events Next Month —

COMMUNION SERVICE (change of date) Sun., 9/13, 12:15pm

(Please see the CHURCH CALENDAR for September events.)

For The Record —

Attendance Last Week:

Sunday School: 61

Morning Worship: 104

DRIVEN YOUTH EVENT TODAY!

☼ Kayaking From 12:30-6:00pm

(See the DRIVEN page for the September events.)

Grace Announcements —

- ✓ **Bible Reading Text Devotional Group:** On Monday, August 31, we will begin reading Philippians, Colossians, 1-2 Thessalonians, 1-2 Timothy, and Esther. If you would like to join us in reading 1 chapter of Scripture per day and receive a short text devotional from Pastor Jeff, please inform him.
- ✓ **Family Matters Marriage Builders Sunday School:** beginning Sunday, September 13th, Pastor will begin a new short-term Sunday School class called: “**Christ, Communication, Conflict and You.**” This class will teach us how to communicate and resolve conflicts in relationships in a way that is pleasing to God and beneficial to all involved. It would help in planning if you would mark a tear-off tab with “SS” and put it in the offering if you plan to attend.
- ✓ The Worship Commission would like to update the stage/sanctuary decorations for the various seasons of the year, and needs your financial assistance to help do this. If you would like to give toward this project, please mark your envelopes: “Worship Commission.” Our goal is \$500-\$1000. Thank you!
- ✓ **Reminder: Southern California Women of Grace District Retreat** is on November 13-15. Your deposit of \$60 is due (total cost: \$180). **SAVE THE DATE: Norwalk GBC Ladies’ Retreat in Solvang is January 22-24, 2016.** Please R.S.V.P. to Josie Ramirez by October 31st. The cost is \$80.

Ladies’ Psalms Study

Begins Sept. 4th at 10a.m.

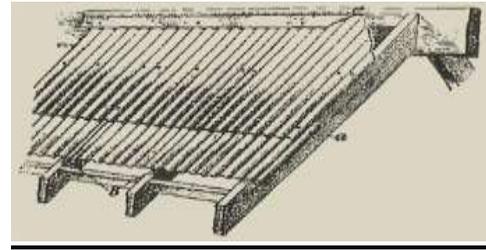
Each Friday morning in 6B

Come & dig deep into the Word!

“Bosi Bucks”

Urban Hope Giving

Sebastian Bosi believes God has called him to Urban Hope Church and Training Center in Philadelphia for a 9-month internship in urban ministry. This is a big step of faith for him and the Missions Commission fully endorses and supports this call to ministry. We are excited to watch God work in Sebastian’s life and rejoice over what he will learn and bring back to SoCal and put in action on behalf our own church. Sebastian must raise \$8000 for his internship. If you would like to give towards this, please mark your gifts “Bosi Bucks” or “Sebastian Bosi.” Any questions, concerns, or suggestions will be joyfully received by either Vet Gonzalez or Sebastian.



Raising the Roof!

Church Roofing Project

Breaking it down! “\$60,000! We can’t do that, it’s way too much!” However, “\$335? Sure I can do that, no problem!” Big things can be accomplished when broken down into smaller pieces. The south wing needs a new roof and the estimated cost is \$60,000. A subcommittee has estimated that it is easier to approach this project by thinking of it in terms of 180 roofing tiles at \$335 per tile. Please prayerfully consider how you can give, not in place of your regular offering, but in addition to it. Godzilla El Nino may be here before we know it! Make it a family project. Commit yourself to “go without” something and dedicate that money toward some tiles. Decrease one item in your personal budget and use the surplus to give. *“Unless the LORD builds the house, its builders labor in vain” (Psalm 127:1).* Caring for our church property is part of being faithful stewards with God’s resources. We know God loves us and cares for us, and we are faithfully anticipating His provision by the hands of His people. The church model in the foyer will be filled in with ceiling tiles as gifts are received so that we can follow the progress. You can take any questions, concerns, or suggestions to Dave Goodwyn.



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And Now You Know:

An Update from the CE Commission

“Faithful in a little; Faithful in a lot”

The Christian Education Commission “leads the charge” for all teaching and discipleship at Norwalk Grace. The Commission oversees all Bible Studies, Small Groups, Youth Ministry, Children’s Ministries, Men’s and Women’s Ministries, the Nursery, Women of Grace, and special speakers and conferences. Currently Pastor Jeff is serving in the position of “Deacon” to oversee this Commission.

Laura Kimsey is overseeing Children’s Ministries and recently met with Pastor Jeff to do some planning and strategizing. A lot of conversation and prayer centered on “are our families taking full advantage of the equipping opportunities Norwalk Grace currently offers their children?” Currently Norwalk Grace is equipping children at three crucial times: Sunday School, Kids Church, and Wednesday nights.

While we do believe it is important to regularly, prayerfully consider new programming and curriculum in order to “keep current,” and keep children engaged in the learning and ministry-equipping process, and we are currently prayerfully considering some new “twists,” we also are convinced that it is vital for all believers, including children, to practice the spiritual fruit-discipline of “faithfulness” (Galatians 5:22). Jesus said in Luke 16, “He who is faithful in a very little thing, will also be faithful in much.” Before adding a new program, before expanding ministry, before deciding to move in a different direction, it is important to ask ourselves, “Have we been faithful in what we already have?” Are our children fully engaged and consistently faithful in the opportunities we provide for them? Are our parents fully engaged and consistently faithful in both the opportunities Norwalk Grace provides for them, and faithfully committed to discipling their children to be faithful to Christ and to Church?

We do not believe that children are the future of the Church. We believe that children are the Church NOW (Romans 10:9; 12:4-5). So the CE Commission is asking itself, “Is the CE Commission being faithful to the children and the ministry with which it has been entrusted?” As a Commission, are we teaching and

equipping the children of Norwalk Grace in a faithful, creative, effective way? And we have come to the conclusion that we can do better! We can be more faithful.

During the upcoming year we would like to focus on ***“Faithful in a little; Faithful in a lot.”*** We will review and evaluate our current programming for biblical soundness, faithfulness, creativity, relevancy, and effectiveness. We will also encourage and exhort our parents to make a commitment of faithfulness to ensure their children are learning that Christ’s people must be with Christ’s people in Christ’s House doing Christ’s work.

The CE Commission is particularly excited about upcoming opportunities for 4th, 5th, and 6th graders because we are sensitive to the fact that it’s tough “not being there anymore, but not quite there yet.” Those “in between times” of life can be rough! Especially on Wednesday nights, we are making plans to offer our “tweeners” opportunities to 1) Learn the Word of God and how it applies to life, 2) Learn how to Evangelize by sharing the faith with their friends and by inviting unsaved friends to “off campus special events,” 3) Learn how to Serve others by taking on ministry projects, 4) Learn how to be a part of the Church by getting plugged into the local body to serve, and 5) Learn from “Senior Saints” by having times of fun and fellowship with caring, mature adults.

Being faithful for the CE Commission also means fulfilling our responsibility to staff and parents. For parents, three times during the year, we will offer a “Family Matters How To” workshop and encouragement-fellowship time. For Staff, we will offer two staff trainings on “How to Effectively Teach Children for Christ’s Glory.”

The great English Pastor-Preacher Charles Spurgeon said, “You may speak but a word to a child, and in that child there may be slumbering a noble heart which shall stir the Christian Church in years to come.” Our hope and desire as a Christian Education Commission are to encourage a “hunger and thirst” for righteousness, for eternal, spiritual, godly things, in our children.