



Grace Bible Fellowship

JANUARY 2024

Pay Attention

“And we have the prophetic word more fully confirmed, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts”

2 Peter 1:19

The beginning of a new year marks new resolutions or, perhaps, a clean slate. How are we going to start this new year? What are we going to give ourselves to? Better habits? Healthier eating? More consistent exercise? We often spend time thinking about what needs to change in our lives.

In 2 Peter 1:19, we are not first told what needs to change, but it highlights what we already possess. We have the prophetic Word. There is something good already in our lives, and the good Word does not change; it does not need to change. The prophetic Word is the Word of God, sure, reliable, trustworthy, and true. We have been given a gift by God in His prophetic Word because this Word is nothing less than a revelation of Himself to us.

God revealed Himself to us in His Word, fully confirmed in Jesus Christ. On the road to Emmaus, Jesus instructed and corrected two of His disciples when He said, “O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?” And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself” (Luke 24:25-27). The Eternal Word has fully confirmed the prophetic, written Word.

What are we to do with this fully confirmed Word that we possess? We are to pay attention to it. In reading, meditating, singing, and praying, we feast on the Word by intently and purposefully listening to what it says. Paying attention to it is not acknowledging it exists or having intellectual knowledge about it. Wives rightly want their husbands to pay attention to them, but that involves more than a head nod recognizing they are a living human being. In learning and studying all they can about their wives, husbands are to act and speak in complete love, devotion, care, and

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faithfulness toward them. Pay attention to the Word because it is a lamp shining in a dark place. "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path" (Psalm 119:105). We need the light to guide us through this year and throughout our lives as we look forward to the final day.

The day dawning and the morning star rising refers to the second coming of Christ. When that happens, not only will the creation be forever changed, but the hearts of believers will be forever purified and sanctified. 2 Peter 2:19 provides a good balance for us as we begin a new year. We pay attention to the fully confirmed, prophetic Word and look forward to the day Jesus returns in His glory. He will drive all the darkness away and finally make everything right. Let us go into a new year with all our hope in Him.

*In Christ,
Pastor Tyler*



Each month, we will have a Book of the Month that will now be available for our cost at the new Welcome Desk in the narthex. There will only be one book highlighted per month. We hope having it readily available will help you. Cash or check to "Grace Bible Fellowship" accepted.

New Welcome Desk

Starting December 31st, you will see a new Welcome Desk in the narthex as you enter the sanctuary.

Greeters at the door should direct all visitors as they come in to this desk so we can give them a gift that will help them know more about who we are and what we do at Grace Bible Fellowship.

The book of the month will be available at the desk as well as other highlighted resources.

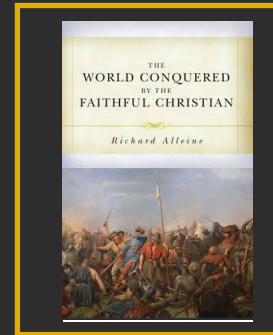
Some of our sign-ups will also be located at the desk for your convenience from now on.

You can also place prayer requests in the box at the Welcome Desk!!

For now, on Sunday, you will find Amanda at the Welcome Desk before and after service. She is happy to help you with any questions you might have about things that are going on, how you can engage in online giving, or any other questions you may have about anything at Grace.

Look for opportunities to serve at the desk in the future!

Book of the Month



The World Conquered by the Faithful Christian by Richard Alleine - \$5.00

This book is a reminder that the Christian life is not idle and that every second we are fighting in a spiritual war.

If you find yourself a battle-weary saint striving to stay the course, take up this book to learn from this great Puritan pastor on how to suit up in the whole armor of God and be strong in the Lord.

January @ Grace

**January 1st
Offices Closed**

**January 7-28th
Sign Up to Sponsor a College Care Package @ the Welcome Desk**

**January 14th
Prayer Service @ 5pm**

**January 16th
Elder/Deacon Meeting @ 6:30pm**

**January 18th
Women's Bible Study @ 4-5:30pm**

**January 24th
Annual Meeting @ 6:30pm**

**January 31st
Bible Study Resumes @ 6:30pm**

Women's Ministry 2024 ...

We are so excited to announce new opportunities for Christian growth and fellowship for women at Grace Bible Fellowship in the new year. Please see Amanda with any questions you may have.

Women's Bible Study

Each month on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays from 4:00 to 5:30 PM (starting January 18th), we will meet at the church for a time of Bible study.

We will be starting with the book, *Behold and Believe* by Courtney Doctor & Joanna Kimbrel. You will need to purchase this book for the Bible study. They can be purchased from crossway.com, christianbook.com, store.thegospelcoalition.org, or tenofthose.com.



At our first gathering, we will go over the introduction to the book and discuss what will be happen and what homework will be expected for each time together.

Ladies, please know that this study *is not* meant to replace Wednesday evening Bible study. This is meant to be an additional study for those who want to dive further into the Word or who are unable to attend on Wednesday evening. As of right now, there will not be any child care at this study.

Please sign up for this study in the narthex between the exit doors and see Amanda if you have any questions at all.

Thank you and we look forward to diving in to this book and seeing who Jesus said He was.

Women's Brunch

This year, instead of the Women's coffee and devotion, we will be doing something different.

We will be having a brunch every other month starting in February on the 3rd Saturday of the month. This will be from 9:00 to 11:00 AM. Children are welcome!!

These will be held in one of the ladies of the church's home (Volunteers are needed)!

We plan to gather together for a time of food, fellowship, devotion, and games.

Each person attending will be asked to bring a brunch dish to share and the hostess will be asked to provide coffee, water, plates, and silverware.

Sign up will be coming soon in the narthex for the February 17th brunch.

If you are interested in hosting a brunch at your home, please let Amanda know. The devotion and games will already be planned for each gathering and the hostess will not need to prepare any of this.



Worship Through Prayer ...

Specific Prayer Requests...

- Pray for Jeff Schenck's hernia surgery on January 11th.
- Pray for Amanda Lafferty's ongoing PT and surgical recovery.
- Pray for John Lindenmeyer to find rest and refuge in the Lord while he suffers with pain.
- Pray for Don Faux as he seeks ongoing help and care for his headaches.

**If you have a prayer request you would like added or one removed, please email the office, place your request in the prayer box at the Welcome Desk, or drop a note in Amanda's mailbox across from the offices.*

Our Missionary Partners...

- Sillas & Wanger Campos, Brazil
- Karl & Glynn Peterson, South Africa
- Destin & Jennifer Detwiler, Sioux Outlook, Canada

Elders/Deacons

Elder - Pastor Tyler
Elder – Eric Bjerkaas
Deacon – Jason Lafferty
Deacon – Jeff Schenck

Ministry Volunteers

Pastor Tyler & Alyssa
Eric & Andi
Paul & Renée
Dennis & Lori
John & Mary
Valerie
Dan & Christine
Aaron
Christian
Graeham
Matt & Rebekah
Jason & Amanda
Jeff & Jill
Yessie
Patty
Kris
Kailee
Evangeline
Caleb
Lydia
Marcos

Sunday School Teachers

Pastor Tyler Sultze: Adult
Amanda Lafferty: 3rd – 8th grade
Elder Eric Bjerkaas: Pre-K – 2nd grade

Wednesday Kid's Bible Study Teachers

Renée Kim & Kris Wallin

JANUARY 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 OFFICES CLOSED HAPPY NEW YEAR	2	3	4	5	6
7 SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9AM WORSHIP SERVICE: 10AM MINISTRY MTG. AFTER WORSHIP SERVICE	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9AM WORSHIP SERVICE: 10AM PRAYER SERVICE @ 5PM	15	16 ELDER/DEACON MTG: 6:30 PM	17	18 WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY @ 4-5:30 PM	19	20
21 SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9AM WORSHIP SERVICE: 10AM	22	23	24 ANNUAL MTG: 6:30 PM	25	26	27
28 SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9AM WORSHIP SERVICE: 10AM	29	30	31 BIBLE STUDY: 6:30 PM			

February @ Grace

Wednesdays – Bible Study @ 6:30pm
 February 11th – Prayer Service @ 5pm
 February 20th – Elder/Deacon Mtg. @ 6:30pm

February 1st & 15th – Women's Bible Study @4pm
 February 17th – Women's Brunch @ 9am (Lafferty Home)
 February 25th – Possible Chili Cook-Off

Happy Birthday

2nd – Kailee Keighin

3rd – Lori Brown

10th – Jose Castro-Yanez

May the *peace* of God be with you
 On this special day.

May His gifts of *grace* surround you
 As you follow His way.

May His *blessing* rest upon you
 And His *wisdom* guide you, too,
 And always, in all places,

May He *love* and care for you.

Happy Birthday!!