

Grace Bible Fellowship

JUNE 2023

Dwelling With the Lord

How lovely is Your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts! My soul longs, yes, faints for the courts of the Lord; my heart and flesh sing for joy to the living God (Psalm 84:1-2).

The sons of Korah, who wrote this Psalm, begin by focusing our attention on the dwelling place of God. It serves as a reminder that God has promised to dwell among His people.

I will dwell among the people of Israel and will be their God (Exodus 29:45).

And I will dwell among the children of Israel and will not forsake my people Israel (1 Kings 6:13).

For the LORD has chosen Zion; he has desired it for his dwelling place: "This is my resting place forever; here I will dwell, for I have desired it (Psalm 132:13-14).

Sing and rejoice, O daughter of Zion, for behold, I come and I will dwell in your midst, declares the LORD. And many nations shall join themselves to the LORD in that day, and shall be my people. And I will dwell in your midst, and you shall know that the LORD of hosts has sent me to you (Zechariah 2:10-11).

God first dwelt among His people in the Tabernacle and later in the Temple built by Solomon. Is it any wonder that such a place is described as, "lovely," since this is the residence of our beautiful Lord? We cherish where the Lord dwells because it is where He draws near to His people. We know His beauty and become so captivated by Him that it only grows our desire to be near Him always.

Verse 2 of Psalm 84 emphasizes this yearning through intense language. It says our souls have such a deep-seated longing for the courts of the Lord they are at the point of fainting. The courts of the Lord were the courts

of the temple where the people of Israel would gather to worship God. It was the place where they could draw near to His presence and know Him. The Psalmist expresses a determined and earnest thirst to be close to God to glorify Him. Our hearts are to have the same intense longing to worship the Lord and behold His incomparable beauty.

Finally, we see how the Psalmist expresses his intense yearning. "My heart and flesh sing for joy to the living God." With his whole being (heart and flesh), he sings to the Lord. It is not half-hearted or unenthusiastic singing. He puts all he is into singing to God because he has joy. His joy comes from the Lord and causes him to sing to the living God. The Lord will hear, accept, and receive worship through this kind of singing. What does our singing say about our joy and desire to worship the Lord? May we be those who know the loveliness of our Lord and long to worship Him with all we are. Now as we, the church, are called the dwelling place of God, may our souls long to gather together to draw near to Him as His joy fills our hearts.

In Him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit (Ephesians 2:22).

*In Christ,
Pastor Tyler*

Pastor's Suggested Reading

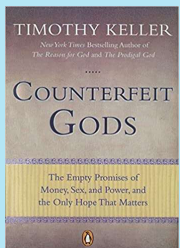
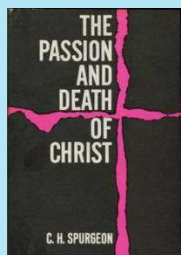
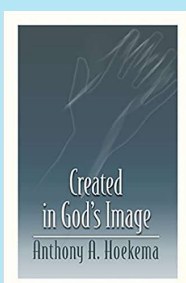
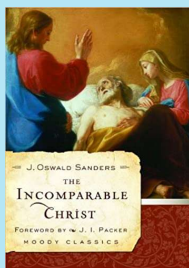
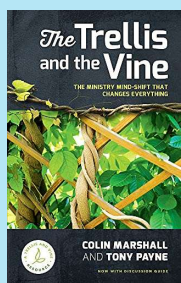
The Trellis and the Vine by Colin Marshall and Tony Payne

The Incomparable Christ by J. Oswald Sanders

Created In God's Image by Anthony Hoekema

The Passion and Death of Christ by C.H. Spurgeon (Library)

Counterfeit Gods by Timothy Keller (Library)



Upcoming at Grace...

June 3rd

Women's Coffee/Devotion @ 9am
(Chapters 3-5)

June 4th

Graduate Recognition Sunday

June 5th

Administrative Office Closed

June 18th

Change For Life Baby Bottle Return

June 20th

Board Meeting @ 6:30pm

July 4th

Offices Closed

July 9th

Prayer Service @ 5pm

July 18th

Board Meeting @ 6:30pm

July 26th

Semi-Annual Meeting @ 6:30pm

Worship Through Prayer

Our Ministry Volunteers

Elders/Deacons

Pastor Tyler, Eric, Jason, and Jeff

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, Jill Sparks, Evangeline, Caleb, Lydia, &
Marcos.

Sunday School Teachers

Pastor Tyler Sultze, Jason Lafferty: Adult

Amanda Lafferty: 3rd – 8th grade

Elder Eric Bjerkaas: Pre-K – 2nd grade

- † Pray for our church leadership (Pastor Tyler, Eric, Jason, and Jeff) as they continue to shepherd us. Pray the Lord would grant them wisdom, discernment, boldness, and patience. Pray for Deacon nominees as they pray about and contemplate this calling. Pray the Lord would make clear who is fit to hold this office within the church here at Grace Bible Fellowship and that He would raise up these men to serve.
- † Pray for our church. Pray that as the world would seek to persecute and divide the Church, that we would remain steadfast in suffering keep our eyes fixed on Christ. Pray we would continually be a place where the gospel is proclaimed with boldness and love. Pray we would remain faithful to reading, studying, and sharing the gospel. Pray we would be a place that encourages meaningful discipleship and spiritual growth among our brothers and sisters.
- † Pray for our missionary partners in the Gospel, Karl & Glynn Peterson, Destin & Jennifer Detwiler, and Sillas & Wanger Campos. Pray the Lord would sustain and guide them while He softens the hearts of those who hear the Word shared by them. Pray the Lord would open doors for them that have been closed before and that as they travel, the Lord would provide safety and rest.

- † Continue to pray for Jeanette Underwood as she heals from having a blockage and her gallbladder removed. Pray she will be able to resume fulltime work again and she and Peter will be able to be back in IL and worshipping with us soon.
- † Pray for Arnold Zolli as he continues to grieve the loss of his bride of 70 years, Marla. We are so thankful to have had them here worshipping among us over the past 2 years. Arnold will now be moving in with his daughter in Yorkville. Please pray for a smooth transition and the Lord's peace to be with him.
- † Pray for John Lindenmeyer's health and strength in his daily walk with the Lord. Pray the Lord would sustain Mary as she cares for him in his pain.
- † Praise the Lord for the work of healing He has done in Denice Lafferty with her knee replacement. Thank you for your prayers.
- † Praise the Lord for the work of healing He continues to do in Doris Forgy with having two knee replacements. Please continue to pray for her recovery and healing.
- † Praise the Lord for healing from wrist surgery for Amanda. PT continues and she will hopefully be able to begin strengthening soon. Please pray for a tendon that is not healing correcting and may need further attention.
- † Pray for Don Faux as he deals with headaches that can be debilitating from a previous head injury. Pray he would draw strength in the Lord in times of suffering.
- † Pray for the single men and women in our church. Pray they would see the sufficiency of Christ and would earnestly seek His face in their times of loneliness or waiting.
- † Pray for our youth and young adults. Pray that they would see the Lord is always worthy of their time and study.
- † Continue praying for Yessie's uncle Max as he is still on the transplant list.
- † Pray for our Sunday school teachers as they continue to teach. Pray the Lord would sustain them as they prepare, pray, and teach each week.

Women's Ministry

Women will meet on Saturday, June 3rd from 9-11 am for coffee, light breakfast snacks, and book discussion. We are discussing the book, "Gentle & Lowly" and will be covering chapters 3-5. Books and sign-up are in the narthex. Please see Amanda if you have any questions.

Men's Ministry

The men's May 6th breakfast and book discussion has been postponed. The July date is still being determined and will be announced when it is finalized.



Please stop by and see Jill Sparks to get your bottle. Sign up is necessary so we know who has a bottle. Please return by Father's Day, June 18th.

If you prefer to just make a donation by check or cash, please see Amanda. Check should be written out to "Abigail Women's Center."

Change For Life - It's Easy

Abigail Women's Center in Mendota provides empty baby bottles to many locations including churches, organizations, and schools. Individuals and families take them home for one month and fill the baby bottles with loose pocket changes, bills or even checks made out to Abigail Women's Center.

After a month, the filled bottles are brought back to the original location where Abigail Women's Center will collect them. The money is then tallied and reported back on the total amount raised.

Your Change Provides

- \$45 - 2 weeks supply of baby formula
- \$55 - 3 weeks supply of diapers
- \$125 - 1 car seat for safe travels
- \$175 - 1 crib for sound sleep
- \$250 - Pregnancy & infant classes
 - A new life **PRICELESS!**

Dear friends in Christ,
Greetings from Brazil!

Last Saturday we re-painted the building of our mission in the poor neighborhood of São Marcos. None of us are professional painters, but we did our best and enjoyed the fellowship. Over the last 7 years, we have been investing in this community, but the people don't seem open to the gospel yet. Please, pray for us! Next Saturday we will hold an evangelistic event for children, similar to a 1-day vacation bible school. Please pray God will use this program to open the kids' hearts to the gospel, and through them, their parents.

On the other side of the city, in a low/middle-class region, God is using home Bible studies to bring people to Himself. While the poorer population prefers Pentecostal, emotional liturgy and preaching, the middle-class and low/middle-class are more open to our traditional, rational, and theological style. In fact, many of them are leaving the Pentecostal movement and seeking a church where there is expository preaching. During the lockdown, when their churches were closed, they began to watch online services from traditional churches, they tasted biblical sermons and loved it!

At the bottom are some pictures of different home Bible studies. Wanger and I love to start a new group, help it to mature, train couples as leaders, and move on to another new group.

Folks, thank you very much for your prayers.

In Christ's love,

Sillas & Wanger Campos



June 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
						Women's Coffee/Devo @ 9am
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Graduate Sunday Sunday School @9am Worship @10am	Admin. Office Closed					
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Sunday School @9am Worship @10am Prayer Service @5pm						
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Sunday School @9am Worship @10am End of Change For Life – Please Return Bottles		Board Meeting @ 6:30pm				
25	26	27	28	29	30	
Sunday School @9am Worship @10am	Pastor Tyler - Out of Office					



Happy Birthday

3rd – Eric Bjerkaas
 10th – Valerie VanWingerden
 11th – Amanda Lafferty
 12th – Jill Sparks
 13th – James Sparks
 17th – Paul Kim
 19th – Margie VanWingerden

Happy Anniversary

1st – Jason & Amanda Lafferty
 10th – Lenny & Kristen
 VanWingerden
 14th – Lee & Joyce McCullough
 22nd – John & Mary Lindenmeyer
 25th – Tyler & Alyssa Sultze
 30th – Don & Doris Forgý