

## **Report Card Data for Elders**

### **Transitions this year**

- Grieved the death of our long-time Director of Music.
- Called a new Pastor of Worship
- Called a new Associate Pastor
- Called a new Senior Pastor
- Celebrated the retirement of our Youth Pastor
- Currently interviewing for new youth directors

### **Biblical Worldview - "How am I growing in obedience to God's Word?"**

**2016 Grade = 7.5**

#### *Strengths*

- Sermon series this year - Ephesians; 1 Timothy; Moses; Praying the Psalms; Commendable Faith; Nehemiah; United by Grace; Spirit of Christmas
- "Leadership Lab" kicked off this fall
- VBS - Total kids = 218
- Youth attendance has stayed strong after the youth pastor retirement
- Legacy Giving (Ron Blomberg) has helped Grace members think through stewardship
- Co-hosted a parenting event, 'Building Faith in Families,' with Long Beach Christian Fellowship and Parkcrest Church
- We continued to support seminarians James Klein, Greg Bartleson, Cindy Van Beek, and Bob Wriedt. James is graduating from Talbot this December and has received his first call to serve a church in Whittier as their youth pastor.

#### *Growth areas*

- Improved partnership with parents in discipleship of children

### **Participatory Worship - "Have I made time for God today?"**

**2016 Grade - 7**

#### *Strengths*

- Students are leading worship in the high school ministry
- Our youth groups have sold out winter and summer camps
- "Day of Prayer" this summer at El Dorado Park
- Expanded the base of volunteers in sound, tech, and instruments, enabling volunteers to rotate.
- GAP - 50 people are committed to praying for the ministry of the church each week
- Lighting improvements in the Fellowship Hall.

#### *Growth areas*

- Facility access and parking on Sunday morning for older adults remains difficult.
- Total attendance in worship is down (401 in 2014; 394 in 2015; 377 in 2016)
- G-Kids is in transition after John

## **Faithful Compassion - "Who am I showing God's love to?"**

**2016 Grade - 9**

### *Strengths*

- Our Stephen Ministry continues to provide great care for our congregation and community. We have a current group of about 20 Stephen Ministers providing weekly, individual support and care.
- Our Compassion Ministry Team partners with 10 organizations to serve women in crisis pregnancies, serve meals and leads monthly chapels at the Long Beach Rescue Mission, distribute food through the 7th St food bank and Heart of the City Los Alamitos, and to welcome refugees in the name of Jesus by developing a Good Neighbor Team with World Relief.
- Hosted our first "Compassion Sunday" with our various Compassion ministry partners
- This year we have added Bryant Elementary School in Long Beach as a Compassion Partner, so that we can show compassion in our community through loving a school in need.
- Needleworks - Knitting blankets and scarves for a shelter in downtown LA.
- Our women's ministry hosted a Christmas outreach project for home-bound seniors through the Senior Serve organization. Also, women's ministry had a Charity Luncheon featured Breast Cancer Angels. Over \$800 was given to this organization providing needed funds for 3 women for one month.

### *Growth areas*

- Extending Grace (in-home communion) has not had a strong response from the congregation.
- Stephen Ministry has struggled to find new Stephen Ministers.

## **Missional Life - Who am I helping to know God?**

**2016 Grade - 7.5**

### *Strengths*

- We added the Marin family as a long-term missionary partner
- We had a variety of Grace individuals participate in short-term mission trips (Game Church mission trip; Steve - Japan; Madeline Sandstead - Vietnam; Jon Michael Sockwell - Philippines; Green family - Uganda; Bartleson family - Portugal; Many Wren - Poland)
- Hosted the Japanese Gospel Choir
- We continue to host a wide variety of Recovery Groups on campus
- Pastor Don provides leadership for our church's support and encouragement of chaplains in the military through the Eagle Commission.
- Started a "Community Presence Ministry Team" that is focused on being an active part of our community, such as through the Christmas parade, 5k/10k, Chamber of Commerce, etc.
- Continued our support of the launch of City Church of Long Beach.
- Project Mission Wish continued its annual Christmas tradition of blessing our missionaries.
- We continued our Christmas tradition of participating in the Angel Tree outreach for Prison Fellowship.
- Increase in Baptisms - 7 this summer compared to 4 last summer
- Christianity Explored saw a great turnout of people seeking to understand the Christian faith.

### *Growth areas*

- Lack of Grace planned, group short-term mission trips
- Our youth ministry is not as engaged with giving as in the past.
- Transitions of a number of missionaries off the field.

**Known by Name - "Who am I developing authentic relationships with?"**  
**2016 Grade - 8**

*Strengths*

- All-Church Picnic - Engaging, intergenerational involvement
- All-Church Camp - 101 participated
- Youth mentoring relationships
- 17 New members in 2016 brought our total membership to ??????
- HS ministry - Began Boys and Girls fellowship
- Worship community gatherings
- Beach bonfire this summer at the end of the Praying the Psalms series
- New life groups for newly married couples and new parents

*Growth areas*

- We need to improve the fellowship time before and after services, especially to facilitate more intentional connection across the worship services.

**Administration/Other**

*Successes*

- Wave 3 is here!
- Strong financial giving weekly

*Future Projects*

**2014 Report Card Grades**

- Biblical Worldview - 7.5*
- Participatory Worship - 6*
- Faithful Compassion - 9*
- Missional Life - 8*
- Known by Name - 7*

**2015 Report Card Grades**

- Biblical Worldview - 8*

*Participatory Worship - 6.5*

*Faithful Compassion - 9*

*Missional Life - 7*

*Known by Name - 8*