

TRUMPET

Grape Grove Church of Christ
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Seek the lost, Equip the saints, Send the sowers

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Grace from God is one of the greatest gift we will ever receive. I spent some thinking about that reality for those of us who have decided to follow Jesus. It's the most compelling part of the gospel story for many people. It's such a unique concept to be forgiven by our Creator and an idea that needs constant exploration.

The question on my mind over the weekend was this: Since I've received grace, how then should I pass it along to others? Going along with this question is the thought about how freely God chooses to bestow it upon us. Ephesians 2:8-9 says, "God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it." This understanding of grace lets us know there is nothing we can do to earn what God readily gives.

Because of this understanding of grace, I am compelled to act in the same manner as I seek to practice the example of the Lord. One way I am striving to become more gracious is by assuming the best in the people with whom I come into contact.

Two things can happen when we assume the best in people. The first thing is they may rise up to face a new challenge. This has been a helpful idea in my parenting style over the years. Raising children is a difficult task, but I want them to know I believe in them! I try my best to lead with trust with our daughters. I've found when I do this in the midst of a challenging parenting situation, they are able to discern the right way to handle things on their own.

The other thing that happens is they get to witness an example of God's grace. By giving away what I've received from the Lord freely, I am providing a powerful witness to the testimony of Jesus. I view withholding judgement in this same vein. Extending kindness through assuming the best in people is a great way to show them the love of Christ. People are more likely to be receptive to the gospel when it's presented in a way that proves we have soft hearts.

I hope these thoughts are helpful for you as the week goes by. I'm praying for restoration to move through our church body. Have a great week.

Take care,

Seth

Attendance

03/23/2025

Worship

78

Offering

\$2,890.00

Up & Coming Activities In Our Family...

March 26	Church Cleaning @ 9 AM Lunch Provided
April 5	Men's Breakfast @ 8:30 AM
May 3	Ladies Fellowship, 10 AM Orion, Jamestown
May 20	Church Landscaping Project, 9AM
June 3	Ladies & Men's Banquet, 6:30 PM Der Dutchman, Plain City

YouTube video presentation called New Wineskins

by Bill will be available on Saturday's. **March 30** episode is titled "Tell Me the Story of Jesus, **Part 9** – Jesus' first words of His ministry: Matthew 4:12-13, Mark 1:14-20, Luke 4:6-28. **Part 10** – **April 6** episode, Jesus chooses His first Disciples: John 1:35-51, Luke 5:1-11, Mark 1:14, Matthew 4:18-22.

Serving the Table for April**06 – J Goodbar****13 – B Lott****20 – J Corbet****27 – J Goodbar****Mission of the Month is Butler Springs Christian Camp and Retreat Center**

Our Church has been asked to donate 75 boxes of cereal. Please have at church building by May 11. Over 1,000 boxes of cereal are consumed each year.

- Woman's Retreat May 16-17. More info to come.
- 58 camps are offered covering all ages. Camp schedules are in foyer. Ask Sandra about church discount!

Because of donations, the camp only charges approximately 50% of actual cost of a camp session. An offering plate for donations will be on right at the stairway on exiting on Sunday, March 30.

- Pray for lives to be changed this camp season and for the staff and volunteers.

Our next Saturday Ladies coffee/devotions will be Saturday, May 3 at Orion in Jamestown outside seating or at Jyl's house if the weather is too cold to be outside.

On Tuesday, May 20 we will be outside the church planting annuals and or perennials for the sign planter and outside landscaping (ladies and men).

Tuesday, June 3 at 6:30 PM, will be our combined Ladies and Men Banquet at Der Dutchman in Plain City, Ohio. You can order from the menu or buffet. There is a signup sheet in the lobby. The room accommodates up to fifty people and a count is needed before the event date.

A Note from Zoe, "Thank you for your partnership in prayer and financial support for my most recent mission trip to Belgium. Just 9 months after returning home for my summer mission, God gave me the pleasure of visiting the cities where my summer team served. I was super encouraged to see what has been up to there. Please see the newsletter on the bulletin board in the foyer for a more detailed ministry update."