




*A Great Place To Grow in
Christ*



For the Entire Family

September 18, 2016	
This Weeks Events	
Today:	
10:00AM: (Grange)— <i>Sermon on the Mount</i> —Pastor	
10:00AM: (Grange)— <i>NEW CHILDRENS MINISTRY STARTS</i> —Dee Coale	
11:00AM: (Grange)— <i>The Willingness of the Christian</i> —Pastor	
11:00AM: (Grange)— <i>NEW CHILDRENS MINISTRY STARTS</i> —Dee Coale	
6:00PM: (Grange)— <i>Christian Suffering</i> —Pastor	
September 23rd Friday	
7:00PM: (Grange)— <i>GOSPEL CONCERT</i> —Mark Gray	 Bring a friend
Upcoming Events	
September 25th Sunday NOON Business Meeting —Pastor	
September 30th Friday BUILDING CLOSING DATE	
July 9, 2017: MISSIONARY TO GREENLAND —J.R. Wright Family	

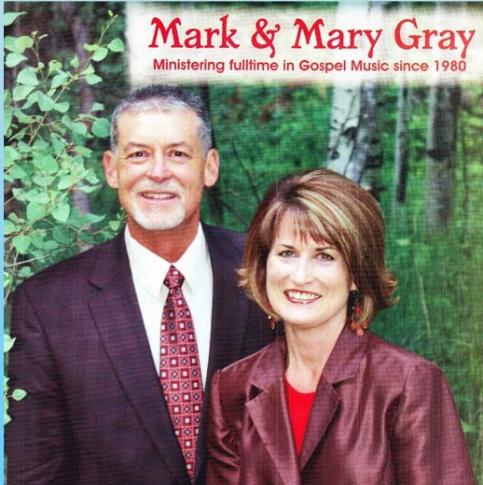
This Friday night at the Grange Hall, GBC will be hosting some good clean fun for the family. Often people complain that there is nothing that is clean for a family to do together. Well, this is an answer. This is for people who don't hang out in bars or taverns. This is the answer for you. Come and join in on the fun of Mark Gray's singing. You won't regret a single moment.

Note from the Pastor

We will be having another business meeting at noon on the 25th of September. We need to get some things in order to qualify to legally purchase the building. I encourage you all to be there so that we can get your vote.

— Pastor

Grace Baptist Church



Sept. 23rd, 7PM

Grace Baptist Church

1631 Agate Loop Rd
Shelton, WA 98584

www.gbcsheilton.org

360-462-1611

“My Brother”

By Ron Coale, Pastor



Ron Coale

The Pastor had that his car was in the drive-come to my house way waiting for me, I would several times try- drive around the block until he ing to get me to was gone, then I would go come to his home and ask my wife, “What church. I was did that pastor want?” She backslidden and replied that he wanted to in- vited us to church. resisted. He had personal bi- ble studies with me several times a week, and I enjoyed them, but I never did the as- signments given to me. I was backslidden and working all of the overtime I could possibly get just to pay off our bills. When I came home and saw

She was interested, but would not go without me. Fi- nally, one Sunday came around where I couldn't get any overtime so I decided to take the family to church. I

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The Johnsons

Missionaries to the "Children of the Dragon" in Mainland China



Dear Folks,

My classes started this week. It's also Mid-Autumn Festival here in China so a lot of people are traveling home this weekend.

Mid-Autumn Festival is also called Moon Festival. It involves a love story where there is a beautiful woman who lives on the moon with the Jade Rabbit (so much for the man in the moon!) and only gets to see the man she loves once a year when the moon comes closest to the Earth. It is a very big family holiday here.

Carolyn and I attended a meeting at school earlier this week to meet a new leader at the school. It went very well.

We have been able to learn a little more about the green card and it looks like we won't be getting it. We might check into it again in a few years since no one seems to know a whole lot about them still and that makes it more difficult.

Carolyn has a couple of tutoring students now and a big proofreading job for October. These should cover the costs of the new medicine for the fibromyalgia and the tests for Sjogren's and TMJ that she needs. She went to the dentist last week to have the swelling in her jaws checked, but the dentist confirmed that it wasn't teeth, but the jaw bones/joints causing the pain and inflammation. Fortunately, it usually does not make eating difficult. Mainly it just causes pain especially at night.

But, we have some good news, too. A Japanese patchwork shop opened near us and, as many of you know, Carolyn loves to make things so she has been learning to do the tiny stitches involved with this. Making the tiny stitches required is somewhat painful, but she's noticed less stiffness in her hands as a result. The other day, she was able to type for an extended period of time. Since she usually has to stop after 10-15 minutes because the typing becomes so painful, this is really good news.

I'll be seeing a doctor next week about some ongoing pain. I'm still hoping to try something else before resorting to surgery. The pain had gotten better for a little while but recently has started getting worse again. I'll be seeing a Chinese specialist at a local hospital.

We also received news this week that our friends Micah and Betty are expecting baby #2! Since she is from Taiwan, they are exempt from the limitations on number of children. And the little one the doctor told them they should not keep because she would have too many problems has just started walking. Little Hannah is such a happy, joyful little one. PTL!

Carolyn Johnson

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will never forget the day, nor will I forget the man who made that day for me. His name is Carmen. He is a giant of a man (Probably 7' tall and weighing 300lbs.) with a loud booming voice. I opened the door of the church and it was like being sucked in. Carmen grabbed my hand and shook it all the time saying "AAAAAMMMMMEEEEENNNN! AAMMEEENNN BBRR-ROOTTTHHHHEEEERR."

My hand was dwarfed in his and I had to almost break my neck to look up into his eyes because he was so close. Putting both of those large, but gentle hands on my shoulders he said, "PPRRAAAIISSSEEE the LORD! Isn't it just a great day to be alive? Come on upstairs with me and let me introduce you around." With that said, he put an arm around my shoulder and off we went.

All the way up the stairs he would greet people with this booming gentle voice, and introduce me as, "My brother."

He said things like, "My brother here is coming to visit with us today," or "My brother here brought his whole family to meet with Jesus today..." Then he would introduce them to me. He didn't even know my name yet. He just called me, "My brother." And, I didn't even know his name.

I admit, I came to the church with a sour attitude. I was determined that nothing was going to make me like the church. I was not expecting Carmen.

He really made me feel at home. He really made me feel like something exciting was going on there. He made me think, "this is the church to be in." Guess what? Carmen had broken through the ice of contempt and I stayed for years to come! It is still my home church. Why? Because of Carmen? No! Because of God, but Carmen sure did make me feel welcome and accepted.

The visitors to the church are the authority on the friendliness level of the congregation. In a

Isn't it just a great day to be alive?

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heartbeat they will know if the church is truly loving and welcoming. Just because a church is friendly to one another doesn't mean that first-timers will feel the same way. If you could get a true assessment from visitors about what they thought of the church, you would hear two common complaints: "No one spoke to us" and "The people seem cliquish."

The congregation thinks they are friendly because they like one another, but when it comes to welcoming others into their little family, subtle signs of unfriendliness are given off.

A small church sits a few miles out of town, populated primarily by three or four interrelated families. The thought never occurs to them that someone might find them unfriendly. Why, don't they have great suppers and fellowships? Don't they mill around for a full five-minutes during the worship time greeting each other? But then it happens.

The new school year starts and several new families move to the area. The youth group finds itself with a half-dozen new kids. New families enter the worship center and end up sitting where Aunt Polly and Uncle Thomas have hibernated for years. The new people are friendly enough. They really seem to want to break into the inner life of this church. But the members erect barriers.

Visitors are the authority of the friendliness level of the church.

The members—all of whom have known one another for ages—are suspicious and superficial. They say the right words, but when church is over, no one hangs around to get to know the newcomers. They are gone. Over Sunday lunch, they discuss the new families and reinforce one another's hesitations about welcoming them.

Eventually, most of the new people move on to the larger church in town where they are given a better welcome. You

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PRAYER REQUESTS		
607.	Pastor	Souls saved in Shelton.
629.	Matt	Gregson Family Finances.
680.	Matt	Savings Account (Building fund) to reach —(\$10,000).
685.	Dee P.	Dee's brother Duane (a proud atheist) salvation.
755.	Regina	Grace Baptist Church to grow in influence & membership.
763.	Sally	Brother Nathan called to preach. Strength & direction.
796.	Regina	Strength for God's will in her life.
803.	Dee P.	Improved church attendance for her family.
849.	Sally	Jonny seeks God's will in making decisions for future.
865.	Dee P.	Son Joseph's health problems & depression.
867.	Dee P.	Family members to read KJB daily.
973.	Dee	Protection for Stephanie working as a nurse.
975.	Dee P.	Brother-in-law George stage 4 terminal lung cancer
976.	Dee P.	Our Christian men to grow as spiritual leaders in our homes, churches and communities.
991.	Pastor	Rylander family return to GBC.
1009.	Pastor	Healing for Duane Gaddis.
1012.	Pastor	A quick and friendly closing on the building.
1013.	Duane K.	Ben's Salvation.
1014.	Tom	Sisters wisdom and comfort in dealing with cancer decisions.
1015.	Pastor	Kyle Boggs dad recovery from motorcycle accident.
1016.	Pastor	Safe pregnancy for our daughter (Sally).
1018.	Pastor	Sam Gipp Evangelistic Meetings.

can't blame them. No one wants to go where they do not feel welcome.

We can get so comfortable with the way that things are going around here that we don't even realize how a visitor feels about us. That is on us. What can we do to make it better? We may not all be "Carmen's", but we can learn from him.~

NOTES:

Mailing address:	PO Box 1025, Shelton, WA 98584
Email address:	pastor@gbcshelton.org
Internet address:	www.gbcshelton.org
Face book address:	https://www.facebook.com/GraceBaptistChurchOfSheltonWa
Office Address:	1701 E. Agate Loop RD, Shelton, WA 98584, 360-462-1611
Meeting Location:	Agate Grange Hall, 1631 E. Agate Loop Rd, Shelton, WA.