



*A Great Place To Grow in
Christ
For the Entire Family*

April 23, 2017

This Weeks Events

Today:

- 10:00AM: (Grange)—*Bible 101: Matthew 8*—Pastor
- 11:00AM: (Grange)—*The Home As God Would Have It*—Pastor
- 6:00PM: (Grange)—*Advanced Bible: Temptation*—Pastor

Upcoming Events

April 19, 2017:

- 6:00PM: (Grange)—*Discovery Group* (Study through the Book of John)—Pastor



May 7, 2017:

- 2:00PM: (Fir Lane)—*Shut In Saints*—Matthew Coale

July 9, 2017: *MISSIONARY TO GREENLAND*—J.R. Wright Family



Children's Church and nursery services are available for every service.

If you want to Keep up with what is going on in Grace Baptist Church, send the word: **GBCLIST** in a text to **84576** on your cell.

A Negative Message?



Ron Coale

Often, we go to church and hear some kind of negative message. We hear about sin, pride, self and much more. There are a lot of ways where we can improve our Christian walk, but it does get tiring to hear bad stuff over and over again. I thought church was supposed to be a happy place where everybody got along. Well, it isn't always that way.

David said he "...was glad when they said... Let us go into the house of the Lord." (Psalm 122:1). This was because he was going up to worship the Lord. His happiness was not in such a good person he was, nor was it in the fellowship he was to receive with others. His happiness was in seeking the goodness of the Lord (Psalm 122:9). He went to seek the lovingkindness of the Lord. He went to Praise God; to see his power and glory; to be refreshed in his soul. (Psalm 63:1-3).

Today it doesn't seem like many people go to church because they have an insatiable thirst for God; a thirst that can only be quenched by going to meet God on His terms. Because of this, messages seem

negative, old and repetitive. Is it a problem with the church? Or, is it a problem with you? Are the messages not what you would like to hear because God is giving you what you need in order to get right with Him? Does He know that these things need to be dealt with so you can once again be happy about going into the house of the Lord for the right motive?

All too often today, people go to a particular church because they like what they get out of it. They shop around until they find one that offers just what they want. They go shopping for a church where they feel like their needs are being met in just the right way they want. Then they call it "spiritual satisfaction." David did not do that. Never did he look for a place that was going to meet his needs and desires. He had the shocking attitude that He was there to make God happy, and to be happy in the Lord. If you could look at David's shopping list for finding a church, it would only contain one item: Is God happy that I am here?

People may look for a "hot" church. A church that has a lot of programs, activities and friends. They would stay away

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JERRY & ATALIAS

THE LANTZ FAMILY

MISSIONARIES SERVING IN SÃO PAULO, BRAZIL

An Extension of the World Wide Mission Ministry of The

CROSSROADS BAPTIST CHURCH

11441 East Central Avenue

Wichita, Kansas 67206

Bill Riffec - Pastor

Greetings from Brazil. With the New Year new challenges have come. Since the middle of December we have been busy with much needed construction around the church. Our attempts this past year at being able to use our church lot for parking proved to be inadequate and thus we began a project of widening the entrance and changing out the hinged gates to a single sliding gate. The logistics alone for the task proved to be a challenge but on February 19th we were finally able to start using the lot for parking thus eliminating the chance of any of our member's cars from being hit by passing cars. We also took the time to install much needed rain gutters and illumination for the parking area. It has given a completely new visual appearance to the church for which we are thankful. All in all many members participated in the project and many are excited at the possibility of also using the lot for night time activities

I would ask that you would remember to pray for Brasil. It is still experiencing political turmoil from last year's impeachment of the president. Some of the changes that have been initiated by the new president have not necessarily been in the best interest of the country but for the benefit of some of the ruling political parties. Still, we realize that GOD is still on His throne and IIE has some divine purpose behind this. We are still seeing people saved but not at the rate we would desire. Lives are still being changed but unfortunately we are seeing one particular sign of the last days found in 2 Timothy 4:3a; "For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine". Please pray that our people will remain true to the Gospel.

In March classes at the Bible Institute will begin again with which I will be teaching the Life of Christ again. I am looking forward to this next year of investing in the lives and future ministries of these new students. Please pray that they will adapt to my "American" accent quickly to be able to understand the material presented. Also remember to pray for Atalias as she will be undergoing surgery on March 9th and for a quick recovery for her.

Once again, thank you for your faithfulness in supporting us financially and/or prayerfully through the years. The churches in Jardim Varginha and Vargem Grande are here today because you prayed and invested in God's work. Please continue to pray with us that we will continue to see an even greater Harvest of souls for the honor and glory of our Lord Jesus Christ in 2017.

Thankfully Received

January - February _____

Special Offering or gifts _____

All Because of JESUS,

Jerry & Atalias Lantz

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from a “cold” church for fear that it will bring them down. In turn, they would look for a church with a lot of money, things and is lacking in nothing. They want the prestige and honor of being “up class”, good looking and popular. Though you are not wrong if your church is like this, you might be totally “out of whack” if this is what you are seeking in a church.

God has something to say about such situations (Rev. 3:14-20). He never looks for such things. In fact, He sees it as an opposition for what He wants in a church. All He is looking for is for people to come to Him. Someone

who will listen to Him. Someone who comes to church to praise Him and have fellowship with Him. He says that He knows the works of people who have gotten all turned around in what a church should be like and it makes Him sick (Rev. 3:16).

“Do you go to church to praise God?”

“Well, that church doesn’t praise God the way I like!”

“Do you go to church to meet

Jesus.”

“Of course! But, I really like the music best.”

“Do you go to church to listen to God?”

“You bet! But if my preacher would just listen to some of these other preachers, then I would like it better.”

“Do you go to church to let God help you grow?”

“Yeah, but they really need to ask me to organize a class. I know I can do a better job.”

“Do you go to church to get involved with worship?”

“Sure, if they do it the way I like, and as so-and-so isn’t there.”

It is easy to see how come messages from God seem so negative all the time. There is such a turnaround in the way that we worship, that church is hardly even church anymore. Just because it has the word: “church” in its name, doesn’t make it one.

How can one be happy about “getting their hide tanned” or

“Do you go to church to praise God?”

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THE MEYER FAMILY

Michael, Carol, Abigail, & Lydia
MISSIONARIES TO
MEXICO



JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2017

Brethren

The New Year brings good news from our part of the world. The Lord has allowed us to minister to others in different places and different ways. We thank the Lord for the opportunity to take the good news to whomsoever he puts in our path. It is a privilege to share in the labors of others as we serve the same great God and Savior. There is so much work to be done and few laborers. Pray that we may help raise up some more workers in our mission field.

Praise the Lord for the salvation of Juan Morales of Bellavista. His wife, Mayra was saved last December at the Christmas program that Bro. Jones has every year, and has been coming to church. Juan is able to make it sometimes to the services when he is free from his busy job schedule. I was able to make some visits to their home, and he trusted Christ in January. We now are spending time together in discipleship; Juan speaks English and has a desire to learn and change. Glory to God for his decision recently to stop drinking alcohol.

Carol will be teaching a few interested ladies from Bro. Jones' churches how to disciple believers. I have also enjoyed helping with the services while Raymond and his assistant pastor, Antonio went on a recent missions trip to the southern part of Mexico. We are now preaching in the open markets in Acatlán and Bellavista with the hopes of souls saved and added to the church.

We continue to evangelize and disciple believers in Tapalpa. We are grateful for the recent help of Pastor Antonio and the youth from Bro. Jones' churches. Years ago I never imagined that a group of young folks would be fellowshiping and singing in our neighbor's houses. It is a reality now, and what a blessing and testimony it is to the people in Tapalpa. I hope to see more opportunities for these to minister all over town, and that the people take note that the Meyer family is not the only one trying to reach them with the Gospel. Pray for much needed discipleship for the following contacts in Tapalpa, and that they will become faithful and fruitful in their testimonies to their families, friends, and neighbors: Ricardo Rodriguez, José Muñoz; José Cruz and his sons, José and Alejandro; Horacio and Refugio; and Miriam. We have been doing a lot of traveling to help these folks, so pray for safety and profitable time spent.

In His Service,

Michael & Carol Meyer (I Peter 4:10-11)

PRAYER REQUESTS

607.	Pastor	Souls saved in Shelton.
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.
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.
1013.	Duane K.	Ben's Salvation.
1017.	Kail	Friends healing from stroke.
1018.	Kail	Friend Zach is in lockup.
1023.	Pastor	Regina's health and recovery.
1024.	Pastor	Larry's successful surgery and recovery.
1027.	Pastor	Sister Regina needs encouragement.
1030.	Machen	6 year old Azreal's brain tumor surgery.
1031.	Pastor	Lori Sylvia's cancer testing.
1033.	Pastor	Bud Ludlow-Traveling mercies and cancer treatment.

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getting their "toes stepped on"? It begins with the reason that you are there. It all starts with the attitude of mind that brought you in the first place. If you are there to meet the Lord, if you are there to let Him enjoy you, then you will take to heart each message with the ideal that somewhere within its folds, there is a nugget for you. A personal nugget that the Lord is sharing with just you only. Some-

thing that holds a special meaning to you only. Whenever you get it, you need to ask yourself, "How is this going to help me be more pleasing to the Lord?" When you begin to look past yourself, and see things this way, you too will be glad to go to the house of the Lord. ~

