

# Wildwood Church of Christ

## Theme for 2021

### *Step By Step: Grow With Jesus*

February 21, 2021

#### Welcome & Announcements

Song: #986 Amazing Grace-My Chains  
Are Gone

Song: #119 Grace Greater Than Our Sins  
Prayer

Song: #296 The Old Rugged Cross

The Lord's Supper

Song: #397 Live For Jesus

Sermon: Grace: A Leaving, A Living, A Looking

Song: #316 What Is He Worth To Your Soul

Song: #5 Step By Step

### *The Grace of God*

Two thousand years after the death of Jesus, the idea that God can love and accept a sinner is such amazing Good News that some in the church and in the world still do not know how to deal with this subject . . . The Grace of God.

Two Sundays ago, we studied together about the Prodigal Son and his older brother in Luke 15. Several years ago, I read a story about this parable that went something like this:

A certain minister decided to tell the story of the Prodigal Son – except with a difference. He decided for shock effect to change the ending. He was faithful to the Scripture as he told about the boy leaving home and wasting his substance in riotous living. He told about the boy feeding the pods to the pigs and finally coming to himself. He told in great detail about the boy's sorrowful and humiliating journey home, but here is where the minister changed the story. The minister told that when the boy reached his father's house, his father refused to see him. Instead, the father killed the fatted calf and threw a great feast in honor of his elder son who had stayed home with his father. After telling the story the minister paused for a moment. Suddenly the silence was broken by an elderly lady smacking her fist into her other hand and exclaiming, "That's the way it should have turned out! That's the way it should have ended!"

I suspect we can all identify with that, can't we? Those of us particularly who have spent all our lives in the Lord's church, know what she is saying. It's just hard sometimes to accept the idea that God could love all sinners.

When we think of man and see the magnitude of his sin (Luke 15:13, 30), we can hardly understand how a single sinner can be saved; but when we think of God and see the magnitude of His love, we can hardly understand how a single one could be lost. Paul says in Romans 8:32 that God "spared not His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all." He poured out His wrath upon His Son and made Him, the innocent, the substitute for sinners, that He might lavish love upon us, the guilty, who deserve His anger (Romans 5:6-11).

Isaiah issued a wonderful and amazing invitation twenty-seven centuries ago: Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return (Luke 15:17-19) unto the Lord, and He will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon" (Isaiah 55:7). Brethren, the promise of God's grace under the New Covenant still stands. God offers "abundant grace" (2Corinthians 4:15) and "abundant mercy" (1Peter 1:3; Titus 3:5-6), and "exceeding abundant grace" (1Timothy 1:14). Paul concluded: Where sin abounded, grace doth much more abound (Romans 5:20). Before the lesson today, read Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-8; 2Peter 3:9-14. ~David

## Prayer List

Our thoughts and prayers go out to **Ken Scott** in the loss of his brother, Bennett Pitre, last week. Please keep Ken and his family in your prayers. The funeral will probably be on the 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Linda Routzhan's** brother-in-law, Fred Lenke, passed away this past Friday in Tennessee. His funeral will be Feb.27<sup>th</sup>.

**Martha Rushmore** has been struggling for quite a while with severe back pain. She has an appointment to see the neurosurgeon and hopefully get some answers and relief.

**Darrel Ponsford** had his surgery last week and the doctors were able to remove all of the cancer. Darrel will not have to have radiation or chemo. Praise God for this wonderful news!

**Pat Ponsford** still continues to struggle with swallowing, even after all her surgery.

**Alicia Barrett** is having therapy at home while recovering from her stroke.

Continue to remember **John DaSilva** with lung cancer.

**Guy Grove** will be going back home to Maryland to meet with his doctors there and start treatment for his cancer.

**Bob Farner** is recovering well from Covid.

**Charlie Boddy** got his first Covid vaccine shot but it did not have time to effect and he has been diagnosed with Covid-19. They are going to try infusions to help him build an immunity. So far, Mackey does not have it.

**Judy Glenn's** sister, Sarah, is in the hospital in Tennessee with heart problems. She has several other health issues that complicates treatment.

**Fred Casteel**, Reida Glenn's brother, will have more surgery this Wednesday, the 24<sup>th</sup> for mouth and throat cancer.

**Dale Dean**, David Myers' nephew, has started chemo treatments for his stage 3 lung cancer. His address is 3810 Cypress Ave. Sanford, FL 32771 if you would like to send a card.

**Remember:** Dale Jones; Linda Grove; Pat Ponsford; Marlin Kilpatrick; Charlotte Martin; Martha Pope; Millie Tudor; Joyce Freeman; Ken Scott; Leigh Workman; Richard Menninger; Joyce Albert; Larry Hyder; Lew Faulkner; Teresa Broyle; Levi Cook; David Deason; Martha Haltaman

## Announcements

~Thank you everyone, for staying diligent and wearing your mask to service as the elders have requested. We appreciate it so much.

~We will be sending the sheet sets and Bibles to the children's home in Guyana soon. If you would like to **help purchase Bibles and send them to Guyana**, you can give your donation to David or Myers, Mike Whisenant or Larry Hyder.

~ Brother Rushmore's publication: "**The Voice of Truth International**" is on the table in the foyer. Pick one up and after you read it, share it with someone!

~The new edition of **Spiritual Sword** is also in the foyer. The timely theme of this issue is: "Remaining Faithful In Times of Crises" Read it . . . share it!

~**Nathan Myers** will be moving to Milton, Florida this coming Thursday and starting a new job as a veterinary tech next week. This step will help him with the application process for veterinary school next year, 2022.

~**Postcards** with a picture of the church building on them are in the foyer for anyone who would like to use them to send a note of encouragement or invitation, etc. Please help yourself.

## Pantry Items

Antibacterial Wipes Paper Towels Rice Instant Mashed Potatoes

Thank you so much for all your support with our pantry!

## February Birthdays

LoisAnne Freeman-4; Bob Grove-6; Keith Jones-6; Reese Meskil-7; Kevin Freeman-16; Janet Sours-20; Lana Vernon-20; Joan Strickland-23; John Yarborough-23; Basile Summers-26; Weston Fort-27

## February Anniversaries

Bob & Linda Grove-1; John & Joyce Yarborough-11; Bob & Barbara Barden-17; Lee & Lana Vernon-27

## March Birthdays

Marlin Kilpatrick-1; Don Tudor-2; Judy Glenn-3; Travis Pickron-3