



News from Pastor Heather

New Year's Greetings!
It's time for new beginnings! It's time for a fresh start! It's time to make some resolutions! These are often statements that are made by most people at the

beginning of a new year, and we as Christians are not really all that different! Who wants to remain the same as before? I know I don't, because I want to continue to grow in the Lord, as well as put off some of those things that have held me down for being all He wants me to be. Yet, we all struggle just a bit in our endeavor to move forward as failings and difficulties from the past create a "drag" on the vision for the future! I'm reminded of a scripture that helps me each time those thoughts come into my mind, and it follows here:
Philippians 3:12-14 (NIV) 12 Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. 13 Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, 14 I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

In Paul's declaration of forgetting, he said he does one thing, however we see that one thing is actually broken down into three parts.

Forgetting what is behind is the first one. It seems that the more difficult a situation is, the harder it is to "forget!" Paul wasn't saying there's no way we would remember these things, but he was simply saying those things would not be enough to hold us back from forward progress!

The next thing he said was he would "strain toward" what is ahead. Yes, there are times serving God, and even moving forward in life takes some "straining!" Yet, be reminded today that it will truly be worth it all one day!

Lastly, he said he would "press on toward the goal to win the prize." We need to remember also that we will be rewarded one day. We must keep our eyes focused on the prize, and the greatest prize we will know one day is to see our Savior face to face!

So let's move forward! Let's dream dreams! However, let's do it all within the safe confines of God's will.

Happy New Year!
Pastor Heather

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JANUARY EVENTS

SATURDAY, JAN. 9
10:30 AM
MINISTRY TO
HEARTSIDE

MONDAY, JAN. 11
IMPACT WILL RESUME
WITH DINNER AND
EVENING CLASSES

TUESDAY, JAN. 12
6:30—7:30 PM
ELDERS WILL MEET
7:30 PM
FULL CONSISTORY

SUNDAY, JAN. 17
SAC LUNCH
FAMILY WORSHIP

MONDAY, JAN. 18
THE CROSSING AFTER
SCHOOL PROGRAM WILL
RESUME

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 20
7:00 PM
MINISTRY TEAMS WILL
MEET

SUNDAY, JAN 24
COMMUNION

Y-LIFE WILL MEET
JANUARY 10 AND 24

2020 Year in Review

Even though the year 2020 was very different than we expected it to be, we still were able to serve our community in a variety of different ways. When we first had to shut down, we were able to use the food we had to serve dinners-to-go to all our IMPACT families. We were able to learn to show our services online through our Facebook page as well as YouTube. We held drive in services through the summer. As fall approached we had our socially distanced Fall Fest with food trucks, a petting zoo, and the great balloon man. Trunk or Treat looked a little different but we had it still and many enjoyed this outdoor fun. Then there was the Community Thanksgiving Dinner where over 200 families were served a warm and delicious Turkey Dinner. December brought some new sounds in the sanctuary as well as beautiful new advent décor. Once again we were able to have the Live Nativity with the Festival of Lights. What a joy to be able to bring the good news of Jesus birth to our community. We wrapped up the year by providing Christmas gifts to 6 families in our afterschool program. Thank you, Grace, for your faithful support in 2020.

Our 2021 Consistory

Elders: Rick Postema, John Sawyer,
Pat Ter Beek, Vice President;
Larry Kleymeer, Clerk
Deacons: Sandy Gort, Luke Nordlund,
Lorie Norden, Chairperson of Deacons
Beth Kubiak, Treasurer

We give thanks that Rick Postema and Lorie Norden have agreed to stay on for an additional year.

As the following leave office we give thanks for their time and dedication:

Thank you to:

Dale Dood, Les VanWyk, Tim Boeve, and Ernst Otto

(Bad) JOKE OFF

Inviting all of our Wyoming neighbors and GRC members to come in two at a time and record just 5 minutes of telling BAD JOKES...just try not to laugh. Parents, kids, and friends are welcome to test their comedy acclaim and have it shared with our community. If you have joy in your life, this is a chance to let others see it! Come in on January 17 or 18.

Register on gracewyoming.org at the bottom of the home page.

Summer Camp

CranHill Ranch and Camp Geneva have begun registration for Summer Camp. If you need a discount code, please call the office.



Member Spotlight



It is our honor to spotlight Robin Zondervan for the month of January. Robin is a licensed CPA and serves as the Chief Accounting Officer at Steelcase. Robin serves on the Finance Team here at Grace and we are so grateful for her many gifts. She is instrumental in helping the church to plan financially. Her roles also include staff payroll, church taxes, and many other miscellaneous financial duties. Robin enjoys the community at Grace and is a part of the praise team. She is also a Kindle book fanatic and fan of college sports.

Thank you, Robin, for using your many gifts at Grace.