

THE *COMMUNICATOR*

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November/December, 2018

KEVIN'S KORNER

"Be very careful, then, how you live – not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil" (Ephesians 5:15-16). That's Paul's exhortation to his fellow believers as they live out their new life in Christ. Notice how these verses operate with a strong sense of time. Not just time in the sense of clock or calendar, but time in a more qualitative sense. Time in the sense of opportunity or occasion. Some of you may recognize the King James rendering of this verse: "Redeeming the time, because the days are evil." The Greek word translated here as "time" is *kairos*. It means an opportune moment or season that calls for some kind of decision or action. This isn't the kind of time you measure in seconds, minutes, or hours. It's the kind of time that you gauge by signs, conditions, and circumstances.

For example, it's one thing to define fall as a period of time that began on September 22 and will last until winter officially begins on December 21. But it's another thing to define fall by cooler temperatures, autumn leaves, trips to the pumpkin farm, the return of football, and the latest aroma from Yankee Candle. When we see, and smell, these kind of things, we know that we're entering a whole new season, not just another block of time that just happens to have different characteristics from the rest of the year. And with this new season will come certain expectations and opportunities that might not be there during winter, spring, or summer. Some things will be the same, but other things will be different, and we want to use the time in a way that maximizes what's uniquely available to us during this part of the year.

The same is true as we navigate our way through the seasons of life. As a Christian, being a faithful steward of time is about recognizing and responding to people, situations, events, and experiences where you have a

unique window of opportunity to do the will of God and bear witness to new life in Christ. "Making the most of every opportunity" is the way our text puts it (NIV). Other translations render it, "making the most of the time" (NRSV), or "making the best use of time" (ESV). The terminology is slightly different, but the essence is the same, namely, staying alert and responsive to opportunities to proclaim and practice the love and life of God's kingdom.

Sometimes, though, the issue isn't just opportunities, but perhaps too many opportunities. Too many options, especially when they're good options. So you need wisdom from God in order to know what are the most vital things to be doing right now. You could be doing this, or this, or this, all of which are good things. But at this point in your journey, at this spot on your path, in this set of circumstances, what are the best and most important things that you need to be focusing on, instead of trying to do everything? What is the best way for you to redeem the time, based on who you are, and where you are, at this time in your life? Which opportunities do you need to say yes to? Which ones do you need to say no to? And which ones do you need to say maybe to, for now, until a later time?

As you turn the page on your calendar, stay attentive to God's timing in your journey. May the Lord give you wisdom and discernment, so that you can determine how to live most faithfully during your current season in life.

Faithfully,

Pastor Kevin

FROM THE COMMUNICATOR STAFF

By Jenny Boswell, editor and administrator assistant

The Deacon of the Month for **November** is Geri Webb.

Daylight Savings Time ends on Sunday, November 4 at 2:00am. Yippy! One more hour of sleep! Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour. Boo! It will get dark quicker.



Veterans Day is November 11. A day set aside to honor those who served this country. Veterans Day was originally called "Armistice Day" celebrating the close of World War I. The name was changed to Veterans Day in 1954 to broaden the significance of the day. In Canada, this day is known as *Remembrance Day*. The church office and the Day Care Center will be closed on Monday, November 12 in observance.

Thursday, November 22 is Thanksgiving Day. The Day Care Center will be closed on Thursday and opened on Friday. The church office will be closed Thursday and Friday.



The Deacon of the Month for **December** is Ronnie Strickland.

December 7th is Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day. The day in our history when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor, leading to our entrance into World War II.

The first day of winter is December 21.



On Monday, December 24 (Christmas Eve.) we will have our annual Christmas Eve dinner and service. The dinner will be at 5:00 p.m. and the service will begin at 6:30 p.m.

Christmas Day Tuesday, December 25 we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Let's not let the hustle and bustle of the holiday season cause us to lose sight of this...Jesus is the reason for the season.

MAY YOU AND YOURS HAVE A VERY BLESSED CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY, HEALTHY, AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR!



The January issue of the COMMUNICATOR will only be the pastor's letter. With this issue will also have the Birthdays and Anniversaries, Upcoming Events and Calendar.

The articles for the February issue will be due the first Sunday in January. (January 6)

The rest of the year's COMMUNICATOR will be bimonthly; March/April, May/June, July/August, September/ October, November/December.

Because of there being two months at a time, dates and events are subjected to changes. Please note bulletins and/or bulletin board for all events.



NOVEMBER/DECEMBER NEWS FROM THE DAY CARE CENTER

By Amy Shumpert; Day Care Center Assistant Director

Meet the staff of Grace Baptist Day Care Center! Incorporated into our Open House in September, we have introduced our "Star Staff" in person and through a bulletin board display. Names, Job titles and photos will remain on display for church members and visitors to observe. If you visit the church during Day Care hours, please take a moment to say hello and introduce yourself.

November and December are months of celebration! The celebration of Thanksgiving will allow the children to read and learn about history. After studying the history of the Pilgrims and Native Americans, we will dress like them and share in a Thanksgiving Feast together. The children will have a first-hand experience preparing/cooking the traditional Thanksgiving foods.

Even before the Thanksgiving holiday, we will honor our Veterans on Veterans' Day. Grace Baptist Day Care will be closed on Monday, November 12. We are very blessed to have many military children/families currently in our center. Today and every day, we say "THANK YOU!"

The holiday hustle and bustle begin! The children and teachers will be busy preparing Christmas gifts, baking, decorating, and practicing for our **annual Christmas program (Wednesday, December 19, 10:00 a.m.)**. **Please come and join us for a morning of fellowship and holiday entertainment!**

The true meaning of Christmas fills the air and hearts of our staff and children. Each classroom will discuss the "Christmas Story" as they share and read the Bible daily. Many of our puzzles, manipulative(s) toys/games and activities in December reflect the Christmas story and its characters. They allow the children to tell and retell the wonderful news of Jesus' birth! Pastor Kevin not only teaches the children the traditional Christmas story, but also teaches the children and staff about Advent and the names/meanings of each advent candle. Children love birthday parties, cakes and candles...this is our **BIGGEST** birthday party of the year! **Happy Birthday Jesus!**

Grace Baptist Day Care will be closed on Thursday, November 22 for Thanksgiving Day. The center is also closed on Monday and Tuesday, December 24 and 25, for the Christmas holiday. We will also be CLOSED on Tuesday, January 1 for New Year's Day.

"Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; his love endures forever," - Psalm 118

HOLIDAY GREETINGS & BLESSINGS FROM THE CHILDREN
AND STAFF OF GRACE BAPTIST DAY CARE CENTER



THE SCRIPTURES SAY...

About Giving Thanks

"And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him." Colossians 3:17

"Speak to one another with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of Jesus Christ." Ephesians 5:19-20

THE SCRIPTURES SAY...

About the birth of Jesus

"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given and the government will be on His shoulders. And He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." Isaiah 9:6

"The angel answered, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God.'" Luke 1:35





This year the theme of the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering is: Every Church. Every Nation.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS
(December 2 – December 9)

Our Church Goal Is: \$2,500



MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

We welcomed Emma Rogerson to our church membership after being baptized at Grace Baptist Church on August 19, 2018.

We welcomed Riley William Mitchell to our church membership after being baptized at Grace Baptist Church on October 7, 2018.

DIRECTORY UPDATE

It is almost that time to update the church directory. So far this year there has been a few updates made to the directory. For those who have not received those updates can get those when the new directory comes out in January for the new calendar year.

In the mean time if any updates that you know of, please let me know. The dead line for the 2019 directory to be included would be the first week of January.



CHRISTMAS CARDS

If you send cards to your friends here at Grace, there is no reason to attach postage and mail them. Simply bring them to church and place them in the "mail box" set up in the foyer. Don't forget to pick up the cards addressed to you and your family.



CHRISTMAS BOX

As in the past, there will be a box in the foyer of the church for the collection of food items for the needy families. Please bring nonperishable items such as canned or boxed items to donate.



CHRISTMAS PARTIES

The Deacons' Annual Christmas Dinner will be on Friday, December 14 at 6:30 PM.

The Ladies' Christmas Party will be on Saturday, December 15 at 5:00 PM. All ladies of the church are invited. Please bring a covered dish and your friends. We will have a \$10 gift exchange and an ornament exchange (both are optional). There will be a sign up sheet on the bulletin board soon.

Our annual adult Christmas program will be on Sunday, December 16th and the children's Christmas program will be on Sunday, December 23.



Christmas Eve Monday, December 24 we will have a dinner at 5:00 p.m. And our annual Christmas Eve Worship Service at 6:30 p.m.

Christmas Day and Christmas Eve: we will be closed. Have a wonderful Christmas!

On December 19th the Grace Baptist Day Care Center will have their annual Christmas program. It will be at the church at 10:00 a.m. All are welcomed.

GRACE'S RECIPE BOX

Cinnamon Tea Rolls

By Faye Rogerson

1 (8-ounce) can refrigerated crescent dinner rolls
1 tablespoons butter or margarine, melted
1/3 cup sugar
1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon

Orange Glaze:

1/3 cup powdered sugar
1 tablespoon frozen orange juice concentrate
1 teaspoon water

Unroll dough onto lightly floured wax paper. Press perforations to seal. Brush with melted butter. Combine sugar and cinnamon; sprinkle over dough. Roll up jellyroll fashion, starting at long side; cut into 1- inch slices. Place in a lightly greased miniature muffin pan. Bake at 375° for 8 to 10 minutes or until golden brown. Remove from pan. Drizzle with orange glaze.

Orange Glaze: combine glaze ingredients, stirring until smooth.

MINDY'S PEACE

By Mindy Adams

November 2018. November 4th we set our clocks back one hour. November 11th is Veterans' Day. We will honor our veterans on November 12th with a day off. Let's not forget to pray for those who have served or are still serving our country.

Thank you Veterans

Thank you for serving our country.
Thank you for giving of yourselves.
Thank you for keeping our country free.
Thank you for keeping our country safe.
Thank you for your sacrifice.
Thank you for thinking of me
Bless you all.

December is almost here. This year really seemed to pass by quickly. Have you ever thought about the things you do only once a year? There are some of them that should be done more than once. Why do we put things off until the last minute?

Once a Year

By Mindy Adams

Once a year we deck the halls
with all the trimmings.
Once a year we shop for special gifts
for friends and loved ones.
Once a year we spread good cheer
and happiness to everyone.
Once a year we share the news
that Christ was born.
Once a year we tell the story
of how Christ died to save us.
But once a year is not enough
to share Christ with everyone.
We should sing His praises
all year long.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES:

Birthdays:

Amber Burgess	11/02
Sheri Cushman	11/03
Robert Taylor	11/07
Bethany Holder	11/07
Katherine "Katie" Baldwin	11/10
Allan Pulliam	11/12
Karen Pulliam	11/15
James Hess	11/19
Darrell Linville	11/20
Ayodele Warburton	11/22

Anniversaries:

Allan and Karen Pulliam	11/05
Ken and Dora Heinbuch	11/25



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES:

Birthdays:

Keishia Fells	12/02
Ken Heinbuch	12/02
Diane Bazzle	12/04
Gerti Wood	12/09
Willis Proper Jr.	12/15
Karen Lanier	12/22
Mark Fells	12/22
Ashley Strickland	12/30
Jacob Fells	12/31

Anniversaries:

James and Trish Sams	12/03
Lyle and Nita Elder	12/19

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR NOVEMBER

- Nov. 3 Deacons Meeting
- Nov. 4 Daylight Savings End
- Nov. 4 Lord's Supper
- Nov. 6 Westside Stitchers
- Nov. 6 Girl Scouts Meeting
- Nov. 7 Bible Study
- Nov. 8 Girl Scout Service Unit Meeting
- Nov. 10 Movie Night
- Nov. 11 Veterans' Day
- Nov. 12 Veteran's Day Observed (Closed)
- Nov. 13 Girl Scouts Meeting
- Nov. 14 Day Care Committee Meeting
- Nov. 17 Finance Committee Meeting
- Nov. 20 Westside Stitchers
- Nov. 20 Girl Scouts Meeting
- Nov. 21 Bible Study
- Nov. 22 Thanksgiving (Closed)
- Nov. 25 Church Council Meeting
- Nov. 27 Girl Scouts Meeting
- Nov. 28 Bible Study

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR DECEMBER

- Dec. 1 Deacons Meeting
- Dec. 1 Fellowship Hall Reserved
- Dec. 2 Lord's Supper
- Dec. 4 Westside Stitchers
- Dec. 4 Girl Scouts Meeting
- Dec. 5 Business Meeting
- Dec. 11 Girl Scouts Meeting
- Dec. 13 Girl Scout Service Unit Meeting
- Dec. 14 Deacons' Annual Christmas Dinner
- Dec. 15 Ladies' Annual Christmas Party
- Dec. 16 Adult's Christmas Program
- Dec. 18 Girl Scouts Meeting
- Dec. 19 Day Care Center Annual Christmas Program
- Dec. 23 Children's Christmas Program
- Dec. 24 Christmas Eve Dinner and Service (Closed)
- Dec. 25 Christmas Day (Closed)
- Dec. 26 Bible Study
- Dec. 30 Church Council Meeting
- Dec. 31 New Year's Eve

THE TEACHER

Jean Thompson stood in front of her fifth grade class on the very first day of school in the fall and told the children a lie. Like most teachers, she looked at her pupils and said that she loved them all the same, that she would treat them all alike. And that was impossible because there in front of her, slumped in his seat on the third row, was a little boy named Teddy Stoddard. Mrs. Thompson had watched Teddy the year before and noticed he didn't play well with the other children, that his clothes were unkept and that he constantly needed a bath. And Teddy was unpleasant. It got to the point during the first few months that she would actually take a delight in marking his papers with a broad red pen, making bold X's and the marking the F at the top of the paper biggest of all. Because Teddy was a sullen little boy, no one else seemed to enjoy him either. At the school where Mrs. Thompson taught, she was required to review each child's records and put Teddy's off until last. When she opened his file, she was in for a surprise. His first-grade teacher wrote, "Teddy is a bright, inquisitive child with a ready laugh." "He does his work neatly and has good manners...he is a joy to be around." His second-grade teacher wrote, "Teddy is an excellent student well liked by his classmates, but he is troubled because his mother has a terminal illness and life at home must be a struggle." His third-grade teacher wrote, "Teddy continues to work hard but his mother's death has been hard on him. He tries to do his best but his father doesn't show much interest and his home life will soon affect him if some steps aren't taken." Teddy's fourth-grade teacher wrote, "Teddy is withdrawn and doesn't show much interest in school. He doesn't have many friends and sometimes sleeps in class. He is tardy and could become a problem." By now Mrs. Thompson realized the problem, but Christmas was coming fast. It was all she could do, with the school play and all, until the day before the holidays began and she was suddenly forced to focus on Teddy Stoddard. Her children brought her presents, all in beautiful ribbons and bright paper, except for Teddy's, which was clumsily wrapped in the heavy, brown paper of a scissored grocery bag. Mrs. Thompson took pains to open it in the middle of the other presents. Some of the other children started to laugh when she found a rhinestone bracelet with some of the stones missing, and a bottle that was one-quarter full of cologne. She stifled the children's laughter when she exclaimed how pretty the bracelet was, putting it on, and dabbing some of the perfume behind the other wrist. Teddy Stoddard stayed behind just long enough to say, "Mrs. Thompson, today you smelled just like my

mom used to." After the children left she cried for at least an hour. On that very day, she quit teaching reading, writing and speaking. Instead, she began to teach children. Jean Thompson paid particular attention to the one they all called "Teddy." As she worked with him, his mind seemed to come alive. The more she encouraged him, the faster he responded. On days where there would be an important test, Mrs. Thompson would remember that cologne. By the end of the year he had become one of the smartest children in the class, and ...well, he had also become the "pet" of the teacher who had once vowed to love all of her children exactly the same. A year later she found a note under her door, from Teddy, telling her that of all the teachers he'd had in elementary school, she was his favorite. Six years went by before she got another note from Teddy. He then wrote that he had finished high school, third in his class, and she was still his favorite teacher of all time. Four years after that, she got another letter, saying that while things had been tough at times, he'd stayed in school, had stuck with it, and would graduate from college with the highest of honors. He assured Mrs. Thompson she was still his favorite teacher. Then four more years passed and yet another letter came. This time he explained that after he got his bachelor's degree, he decided to go a little further. The letter explained that she was still his favorite teacher, but that now his name was a little longer. The letter was signed, Theodore F. Stoddard, M.D. The story doesn't end there. You see, there was yet another letter that spring. Teddy said he'd met this girl and was to be married. He explained that his father had died a couple of years ago and he was wondering ...well, if Mrs. Thompson might agree to sit in the pew usually reserved for the mother of the groom. And guess what, she wore that bracelet, the one with several rhinestones missing. And I bet on that special day, Jean Thompson smelled just like...well, just like the way Teddy remembered his mother smelling on their last Christmas together.

THE MORAL: You never can tell what type of impact you may make on another's life by your actions or lack of action. Consider this fact in your venture thru life.

(copied from the bulletin of Indian Head United Methodist Church - October 7, 2018)

NOVEMBER 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Deacon of the Month: Geri Webb				1	2	3 7:00am Deacons Meeting
4 Daylight Savings End Lord Supper 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am M. Service	5	6 4:00pm Westside Stitches 6:30pm - 7:30pm Girl Scouts	7 7:00pm Bible Study	8 7:00pm - 9:00pm Girl Scout Service Unit Meeting	9	10 6:00pm Movie Night
11 Veteran's Day 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am M. Service 12:30pm Fellowship Meal	12 Veterans' Day Observed Closed	13 6:30pm - 7:30pm Girl Scouts	14 6:00pm Day Care Committee Meeting	15	16	17 10:00am Finance Committee Meeting
18 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am M. Service	19	20 4:00pm Westside Stitches 6:30pm - 7:30pm Girl Scouts	21 7:00pm Bible Study	22 Thanksgiving Closed	23	24
25 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am M. Service 12:30pm Church Council Meeting	26	27 6:30pm - 7:30pm Girl Scouts	28 7:00pm Bible Study	29	30	

DECEMBER 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Deacon of the Month: Ronnie Strickland						1 7:00am Deacons Meeting 9:30am - 1:00pm Fellowship Hall Reserved
2 Lord's Supper 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am M. Service	3	4 4:00pm Westside Stitches 6:30pm - 7:30pm Girl Scouts Meeting	5 7:00pm Business Meeting	6	7	8
9 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am M. Service	10	11 6:30pm - 7:30pm Girl Scouts Meeting	12	13 7:00pm - 9:00pm Girl Scout Service Unit Meeting	14 6:30pm Deacons annual Christmas Dinner	15 5:00pm Ladies' Christmas Party
16 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am M. Service Adult's Christmas Program	17	18 6:30pm - 7:30pm Girl Scouts Meeting	19 10:00am Day Care Center Annual Christmas Program 7:00pm Bible Study	20	21	22
23 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am M. Service Children's Christmas Program	24 Christmas Eve 5:00pm Dinner 6:30pm Worship Service	25 Christmas Day Closed	26 7:00pm Bible Study	27	28	29
30 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am M. Service 12:30pm Church Council Meeting	31 New Year's Eve					