

# Grace Evangelical Free Church

Indianola, IA

## Big Events

### VBS

July 7-11 Grace Church hosted an enthusiastic and lively group of children for this year's Vacation Bible School. Forty-three children attended one or more evenings. The children eagerly absorbed the Word of God from the teaching, snacks and fun activities presented. The VBS was capped off with a special time during the Sunday morning service for the children to sing and recite songs and scriptures they learned during the week. A short puppet drama about the Armor of God was also presented. This very special week involved hours of work and prayer from the dedicated VBS staff who enjoyed the time as much as the children.

### Visiting Missionaries

On July 6<sup>th</sup>, Gary, Kate, Lucie and Anthony DeGraaf, missionaries to France came to share updates about their work in Lille, France. The children in our VBS were fascinated to learn that the children in Lille were also having their VBS the same week. On the last day, each child was given a French penny as a reminder to be "One Sent" (cent) to share the Gospel of Jesus.

On August 16<sup>th</sup>, Drew and Stacy Frazer held an Open House at Grace church to share about their new opportunity to serve the Lord.

### Grace Church Library

Alice Gaumer is bringing her many years of experience at the Indianola Public Library to our Grace Church Library. New shelves are being set up and Alice will help reorganize the many books and resources you will find there. Be sure to stop by.

### Parent's Night Out

On June 28<sup>th</sup>, Grace Church held its first Parent's Night Out. Parents were encouraged to invite friends for a night out with free childcare provided for all. Eleven children enjoyed the evening of snacks, crafts, games in the downstairs rec room and a Disney movie. The four adult helpers had just as much fun as the kids.

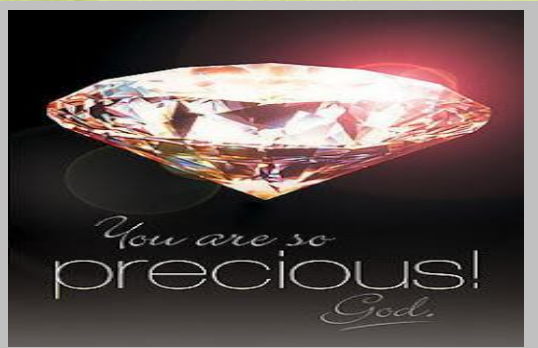
### Outreach to Simpson College.

On September 4<sup>th</sup>, Grace Church will be hosting a booth at the Simpson College's event titled "Exploring Faith Communities".



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“Faith that has been tested and proved is precious in God’s sight.”

Pastor Mark

We are part of the Evangelical Free Church of America, which is an association of nearly 1,500 autonomous churches and church plants in a growing ministry that currently extends to some 75 countries of the world.

[www.EFCA.org](http://www.EFCA.org)



## Words from Pastor Mark

### Precious to God



We live in an age of mixed-up values, to put it mildly. One of the things which God delights to do is to reorient us as to what is valuable. The apostle Peter helps me out in his two letters. Five times he labels something as precious, and in so doing he helps us remember what is truly important.

Your faith is precious (1 Peter 1:7). “. . . so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire.” Faith that has been tested and proved is precious in God’s sight. It’s no wonder that He seems more interested in my trust of Him than He is in my circumstances.

The blood of Christ is precious (1 Peter 1:18-19). We have been ransomed “. . . not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ . . .” This is why we sing, “Oh! precious is the flow that makes me white as snow. No other fount I know, nothing but the blood of Jesus”.

Jesus is infinitely precious (1 Peter 2:4). Peter points to Jesus and refers to Him as: “a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious.”

A gentle and quiet spirit in a wife, in a woman, is precious (1 Peter 3:4). In fact, Peter’s actual words are these: “which in God’s sight is very precious.” When God sees a person’s heart that is at rest because she or he knows and loves God, He treasures that heart.

God’s promises are also precious as well as trustworthy (2 Peter 1:4). Peter marvels at God’s “precious and very great promises” by which we “may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire.”

Through this simple reminder of what is valuable to God, may He renew our minds and thus renew our lives.

For God’s glory and your joy,  
Pastor Mark



## Upcoming Events

Monday, August 4  
**First Prayer** 7:00pm

Monday & Tuesday, August 11 & 12  
**Grace Food Pantry** 5:30pm

Monday, August 18  
**Children's Ministry Meeting** 6:30pm

Monday, September 1  
**First Prayer** 7:00pm

Monday & Tuesday, September 8 & 9  
**Grace Food Pantry** 5:30pm

Monday, September 15  
**Children's Ministry Meeting** 6:30pm

**October is Pastor Appreciation Month.**

Monday, October 6  
**First Prayer** 7:00pm

Monday & Tuesday, October 13 & 14  
**Grace Food Pantry** 5:30pm

Thursday, October 23  
**Table of Plenty** 5:30pm

## Weekly Events

### Wednesdays

**Bobcats (Starting in September)**  
Greg Abbott's Home - 10:00 am

**Worship Team Practice**  
Church Building - 6:30pm

**1 Corinthians Bible Study- (Starting in September)** Led by Larry Gaumer  
Church Building - 7:00pm

### Thursdays

**Women's Bible Study- TBA**

## August, September, October Birthdays & Anniversaries

August 10	Becky King
August 14	Jon and Shirley Schuttinga Kathy Pattison
August 15	Carol Kuhn Alice Brito
August 21	Gale Christopherson
August 23	Kevin and Becky King
August 25	Micah Bardwell
August 26	Lynn Sargent
August 27	Susan Piffer
August 29	Madysen Elrod
September 5	Beth Zimmerman Jim Stewart
September 11	Kathy Kester
September 15	John and Janet Miller
September 19	John and Susan Piffer
September 20	Kirsten Edwards
September 21	Carl Alexander
September 26	Margaret Friesen
September 28	Jeanette Campbell Joyce Abbott
September 30	Dawn Gross
October 2	Kai Starr
October 7	Kathie Hutcheson
October 10	Donna Acheson
October 11	John Piffer
October 13	James and Melissa Gray Larry and Alice Gaumer
October 21	Bill and Jana Krempasky



## Getting to know... Chuck and Wilma Seymour

When you step through the doors at Grace Church you are sure to notice the friendly couple meeting and greeting friends and visitors alike. They loved Martensdale Community Church and attended together for years. Eventually they changed to Grace Church since it also offers great teaching and friendly people- just closer to home now that they have lived in Indianola for eight years. Being close by helps Wilma in her ministry of making sure that the plants in the sanctuary are healthy and beautiful.

Chuck and Wilma grew up in rural Martensdale. Though Chuck says they met in the big town of Prole, Wilma says they have known each other forever, went to Martensdale High School together, finally decided they really "liked" each other and got married. After Chuck finished his military service, they began their family. Chuck and Wilma have one daughter, Brenda, who lives in Ridgeland, SC. Closer to home, they have four sons, Greg, Brad, Roger, and Brian who all live within ten miles. In addition, they have been blessed with many grandchildren, four great grandchildren, and a niece who is serving as a missionary in Cambodia.

Chuck enjoys sports including baseball, basketball, golf and fishing. Wilma says her kids would say her favorite books are cook books, but she also enjoys the Janette Oke series. People she most admires are Corrie ten Boom, and closer to home, her mother, who was a strong Christian woman.



Wilma's favorite quote is one she learned from her mother. "There but for the grace of God go I." She has remembered this quote often along with Philippians 4:13 for peace and calm in the midst of raising their five children. Chuck and Wilma have relied on the Lord for answers, although the answers were not always the ones they were seeking. The constant is that God is always faithful!

### Favorite Scriptures:

John 11:25

2 Timothy 2:11

23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm

Philippians 4:13

Chuck's birthday- January 24

Wilma's birthday- May, 30

Anniversary- February 1st

**Fun Facts:** When Wilma gets to Heaven, she wants to ask the Lord what was the purpose of mice. (Ask her about her many mice stories!) When he was small, Chuck says he often had trouble sitting quietly in the Catholic Church where he was raised and had a few trips outside for some "extra" teaching!

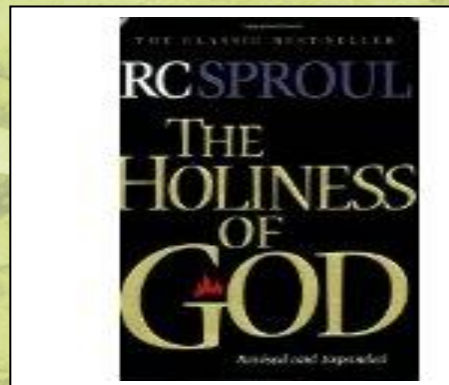


## Featured Book Review

By Larry Gaumer

*THE HOLINESS OF GOD* by RC SPROUL

Central to God's character is the quality of holiness. Yet, even so, most people are hard-pressed to define what God's holiness precisely is. Many preachers today avoid the topic altogether because people today don't quite know what to do with words like "awe" or "fear." R. C. Sproul, in this classic work, puts the holiness of God in its proper and central place in the Christian life. He paints an awe-inspiring vision of God that encourages Christian to become holy just as God is holy. Once you encounter the holiness of God, your life will never be the same. Few authors possess the keen ability to help readers come into a grasp of the nature of God's holiness, but through this book Dr. Sproul is able to help us understand better and transport the reader into the presence of God. We often hear many talk about how God is love, yet why do fewer ever speak of His holiness and justice? The Holiness of God reminds us yet again that our salvation is an act of mercy and grace by God, through Christ's propitiatory death, since His absolute holiness demands only justice for our sins. Sproul helps readers dig deeper beneath a superficial surface of what it means that God is holy, bringing us into a deeper understanding and love of who God is, a greater awe for His absolute holiness, and reverence in worship. One chapter is titled 'The Trauma of Holiness.' Why and how does holiness invoke trauma? Our true God possesses a uniqueness, an awesome "otherness". After Jesus miraculously calmed the storm in the Sea of Galilee, the disciples felt uncomfortable and terrified upon realizing that they, in their sinfulness, were in the presence of the Holy One. Sproul squarely and correctly provides much needed balance in this book on these questions. God is sovereign, He is infinite, He is eternal, and He is holy - we are none of these things. This book helps us to see better the God who is--who not only brings comfort in time of need, invokes our adoration and praise, but also in whose Holy presence drives us to our knees in reverential worship.



### Need some good reading?

Be sure to "check out" these books and more in the growing Grace library!

#### Fiction

##### *Showdown* by Ted Dekker

Welcome to Paradise. Epic battles of good and evil are happening all around us. Today that battle comes to town with the sound of lone footsteps clacking down the blacktop on a hot, lazy summer afternoon. The black-cloaked man arrives in the sleepy town of Paradise and manages to become the talk of the town within the hour. Bearing the power to grant any unfulfilled dream, he is irresistible. Seems like bliss... but is it? Or is hell about to break loose in Paradise?

#### Biography

##### *Trumpeter of God: a Biography of John Knox*, by Stanford Reid

John Knox is considered to be the greatest Reformer in the history of Scotland. Knox died in Edinburgh on November 24, 1572. John Knox is the author of "The History of the Reformation in Scotland". Knox was also a key contributor to the publication of the "Bible of the Protestant Reformation", the 1560 Geneva Bible.

## About Grace EFC

Glorifying God. Loving People. Teaching God's Word

**Our Mission:** To glorify God through the power of the Holy Spirit by honoring Christ's name, teaching His Word, loving His people and expanding His kingdom.

**Who We Are:** We are part of the Evangelical Free Church of America. We are people from diverse backgrounds united by our love for God, for each other, and for the world.

Our worship blends time-honored hymns in a modern style along with contemporary hymns and worship songs that honor and glorify Jesus Christ. Messages at Grace feature clear, systematic teaching of the Bible with timeless truths that apply to our lives today.



108 N. Jefferson Way  
Indianola, IA 50125

Sunday morning worship: 9:00 AM

Sunday School for all ages at 10:30 AM.

Shipping Address Here

555 Street Address

City, State 55555