

TO INFORM & INSPIRE

CONNECTION

Love that is Generous

~Pastor Mark Johnson

In February, the elder board introduced a clarified vision statement to help define our target and measure our church's progress toward fullness in Christ.

The clarified vision of Grace:
"We are seeking to become a community of generous lovers of God and others as wholehearted disciples of Jesus."

Over the next months we will be further explaining what we mean by these terms. In this article, I will expand on what we mean by the word GENEROUS.

"Generous lovers of God and others..." -

A sacrificial love that reaches its full expression (maturity) in all aspects of life and relationship.

A Love Rooted in the Person of God

Foremost, God invites us into deep communion with Himself. God is love. When we place our faith in Jesus, we are given full access into the riches of His love – which

surpasses knowledge (Eph3:19). God is an infinite resource and has poured out his love into our hearts through the Holy Spirit (Rom5:5). As we are loved by him, we now have the capacity to love one another in the same way he has loved us (Jn13:34; 1Jn14:9).

A Love that is Surprising

God's love goes beyond what was expected. Jesus taught that to love like God is to love our enemies and pray for those who persecute us (Mt5:44-45). When asked about the command to love

one's neighbor, Jesus told a parable of a shocking display of love from a Samaritan toward a Jew (Lk10:30-37).

A Love that is Sacrificial

On the night before his crucifixion, Jesus gathered his disciples for their last meal together. Before the meal, he knelt and washed each of the disciples' feet. Jesus'



Continued on next page

humble service was to demonstrate his love for them in fullness (Jn13:1). Later, during the meal, Jesus proclaimed that there is no greater love than to lay one's life down for his friends (Jn15:13). Within 24 hours, Jesus would demonstrate to them this very example.

What about us?

As I ponder these few examples of the quality of generous love embodied in Jesus and available to me, I confess that I fall short. However, I would also confess that I am learning and growing to be more like Jesus every day. This is the essence of discipleship. As an apprentice of Jesus, I am committed to a course of loving God and inviting the person of Jesus to be formed in me. I am actively practicing the way of Jesus.

How is the love of God revealed to others through me? Does it surprise people? Am I giving out of the abundance that is in me through the Holy Spirit?



Easter Week Services

April 13 10:30am ~ Palm Sunday ~
Children's Program

April 18 ~ Good Friday 7pm Service

April 20 ~ Easter Day

6:30 am Sunrise Service

Followed by a Continental
Breakfast served in our lobby

No 9am Sunday School Hour

10:30am Easter Service



WOMEN'S MINISTRY



Wondering how to use the gifts you have discovered that God has blessed you with?

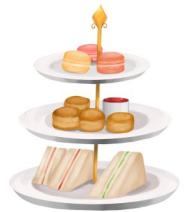
We always think of the kitchen as the 'heart of the home', so we naturally think our kitchen at Grace is a wonderful 'heart' of our church! We want to work together to keep it clean, cozy and running efficiently!

If you have ideas, or input, we always love to chat with you and use your gifts however you may want!

If you feel it is something you would like to do, stop in on Sundays to get it going!

We appreciate you so much.

~Marcy Walters



Ladies are you looking for an opportunity to connect with other ladies?

Join us
Thursdays at 3:00 for Tea

At Martha Johnson's home
30 S. Pioneer Circle Jackson

Come any time between 3 and 5pm

*Sharing our Lives and Faith
over a cup of Tea*

LIVING YOUR BEST LIFE FOR SINGLE LADIES OF ALL AGES



**CALLING SINGLE WOMEN OF ALL
AGES.**

**PLEASE JOIN US ON THE FIRST
TUESDAY OF THE MONTH AT 6PM
FOR DINNER AT NANCY
JOHNSON'S HOUSE**

**WE WILL HAVE DINNER, BIBLE
STUDY, FELLOWSHIP,
AND FUN!**

81 PIONEER CIRCLE JACKSON



4 PLACES TO SERVE ON SUNDAY MORNINGS

01



BE A SCRIPTURE READER



**AS YOU KNOW SCRIPTURE IS READ MOST WEEKS AS A
PART OF OUR SERVICE. IF YOU'D CONSIDER BEING A PART
OF THIS SERVICE PLEASE LET THE OFFICE KNOW.**

02



HOSPITALITY



**LIKE THAT HOT COFFEE AT THE 9 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS? MAYBE YOU COULD COME
AT 8:30 AND HELP MAKE IT! THIS JOB ALSO PUTS OUT ALL THOSE YUMMY DONUTS AND
COOKIES WE ALL LOVE TO EAT. CURRENTLY, WE ONLY HAVE A FEW PEOPLE HELPING IN
THIS AREA AND WOULD LIKE TO ADD MORE SO EVERYONE COULD BE ON A ROTATION.**

03



SECURITY



**CREATING A COMFORTABLE AND SAFE ENVIRONMENT FOR
GUESTS BY OFFERING SECURITY AND A VISIBLE PRESENCE
IN THE LOBBY DURING SERVICE. MORE INFORMATION
ABOUT THIS MINISTRY IS AVAILABLE THROUGH THE OFFICE.**

04



HOSPITALITY CLEAN-UP



**ALL THE GREAT COFFEE AND SNACKS NEEDS TO BE CLEANED UP AND PUT AWAY FOR
NEXT WEEK. WASHING OUT THE COFFEE POTS, PLACING COOKIES IN ZIPLOCK'S AND A
FEW OTHER THINGS THAT TAKE ABOUT 30 MINUTES AFTER SERVICE, IS WHAT MAKES THIS
JOB EASY! WE NEED 5 PEOPLE TO HELP MAKE THIS WORK LIGHT AND MANAGEABLE FOR
US ALL!**

To help, call the church office to let us know or email
andrea@graceofamador.org

What Our Missionaries Need From Us

Now that the 2025 Grace Fellowship Missions Conference is complete, our role is to continue interest and support for our missionaries. They need to feel that we are connected to them throughout the year, as their lives are spent serving in diverse and many in distant places.

Fortunately, we can support them in meaningful ways and have produced a pamphlet that may help. It's small, the size of ¼ sheet of paper and we call it "Meet Our Missionaries." It lists all of our GF missionaries with a small photo, their mission calling and objective, with pertinent info regarding birthdays, anniversaries, and their contact information. This little resource is a great way to stay connected. It's small and will fit in your bible or daily devotional to keep near your meal location, breakfast nook or wherever you pause to give thanks and pray.

The next time you pass by the GF Mission's display area in our lobby, please pick up one of the pamphlets. As you open it, we hope it will inspire you to pray for our

missionaries frequently. It's a good way for a family with children to keep them thinking about what life on the mission field is like, and how we should be praying for them. Beyond prayer, you may feel led to write a note of encouragement and/or ask to be placed on their e-mail list to receive updates on their ministry.

Finally, Thank You from the GF Missions Board. We are thankful that you made this year's Mission's Conference a success. You welcomed our guest Missionaries and through your generosity encouraged their efforts to share the Gospel and serve the Lord.

~David Borgh

NEW HOPE HOME

New Hope Home Ministry is grateful to Grace Fellowship for the use of the "Victorian". We would like you to know that many women's lives have been changed through the ministry that God has called us to. God has provided a safe and loving place for women who chose to ask for help battling addictions. Our faith based program brings support and accountability undergirded by God's Word and the power of the Holy Spirit.

The following testimony is in Jenae's own words.

For I know the plans I have for you declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

- Jeremiah 29:11

My journey into sobriety began on February 1, 2023 when I entered into a program at the Lakes Treatment Center. After 15 years of addiction I knew I could no longer go on that way if I wanted to live. I graduated from the program on May 1, 2023 and on the same day I repacked my belongings and moved into New Hope Home. This is where a new journey began and a plan to reconstruct my life. New Hope Home took me in with open arms and the most loving care, doing for me what my fears had kept me from doing for myself. Being amongst other Christian women set along a similar path was my confirmation that the Lord was walking with me.

The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you, He will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid, do not be discouraged.

- Deuteronomy 31:8

Part of getting my life back on track meant becoming an active member of society and getting a job. On August 9th I was hired at Raley's in Jackson. It took some getting used

to with the long hours and the early morning baking shift but the dedication and hard work paid off and in 8 months I was promoted to the food service assistant manager. I was given a very special and life changing piece of advice from my house mom, mentor and friend Tammy Jo when she told me to go into work each day with the mindset of how I could best be of service to God by serving others. That thought process changed something in how I viewed going to work, it allowed for so much joy to fill my heart. On the 20th of May I decided to move back home with my family. I commuted for several months until transferring to the Raley's store in Lodi which conveniently is directly across the street from my house.

My blessings are many but it is really something to be able to say that I have seen the movement of the Lord's hand upon my life. I am forever grateful for having been given the opportunity to make a new start. Thank you New Hope Home for seeing God in my heart, for loving me when I doubted being able to be truly loved, encouraging me through my fears and seeing me through into this beautiful world I am so happy to be a part of.

Eternally Grateful,

Jenae Zanetti





The Outdoor Adventure Group is back in action with several local hikes completed already this year. The goal is to hold one event per month.

We hope to have upcoming snowshoeing and mountain biking events, plus more activities at higher elevations as the summer arrives.

Scenery, exercise, fun and fellowship. It's a great way to meet new people and also invite others, especially those who might be reluctant to attend church.

If you'd like to be a part of this group, log onto the [Church Center App](#) Click on: More—Groups—Unique Groups, that will take you to Outdoor Adventure. Or you may speak with Todd Kuntz or call the office.



Typical early spring scenery along the Mokelumne Coast-to-Crest trail near Jackson.



HE IS
NOT HERE

he has risen

JUST AS
HE SAID

Matthew 28:6



April 2025



4/04: Ray & Barbara Brusatori

4/12: Thomas & Sharon Driver

4/10: Russ & JoAnn Richard

4/21: Marcus & Karyn Perry

4/24: Harry & Barbara Richardson

Our Vision:

"We are seeking to become a community of generous lovers of God and others as wholehearted disciples of Jesus."



4/04: Alexa Kerr

4/05: Etienne Pieterse

4/06: Janet Foster

4/10: Anthony Parkyn

4/12: Kim Conley

4/12: Mike Stromberg

4/17: Eleanor Haight

4/19: Gilbert Gonsolis

4/20: Jake Pera

4/22: Rick Haight

4/24: William Gough

4/27: Caleb Ancar

4/30: Caitlyn Cranfill



April

2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 9:30am Men's & Women's Bible Study Living Your Best Life 6-8pm	2 6:15-Weds Night Church Prayer Meeting	3 7:00am Men's Bible Study @ Duke Foster's Thursdays @ 3 for Tea @ Martha's	4 7am Men's prayer meeting	5 All Church Work Day 9-12
6 9 am Sunday School 10:30 Worship Srv	7 7-9pm Men's Ministry Book Study	8 9:30am Men's & Women's Bible Study	9 6:15-Weds Night Church Prayer Meeting	10 7:00am Men's Bible Study @ Duke Foster's Thursdays @ 3 for Tea @ Martha's	11 7am Men's prayer meeting	12
13 Palm Sunday 9 am Sunday School 10:30 Worship Srv Children's Program	14 7-9pm Men's Ministry Book Study	15 9:30am Men's & Women's Bible Study	16 10am Rest Home Ministry 6:15-Weds Night Church Prayer Meeting	17 7:00am Men's Bible Study @ Duke Foster's Thursdays @ 3 for Tea @ Martha's	18 7am Men's prayer meeting 7pm Good Friday Service	19
20 EASTER 6:30 Sunrise Srv 10:30 Worship Srv	21 7-9pm Men's Ministry Book Study	22 9:30am Men's & Women's Bible Study	23 6:15-Weds Night Church Prayer Meeting	24 7:00am Men's Bible Study @ Duke Foster's Thursdays @ 3 for Tea @ Martha's	25 7am Men's prayer meeting WM RCP Spring Retreat 25-27-----	26
27 9 am Sunday School 10:30 Worship Srv	28 7-9pm Men's Ministry Book Study	29 9:30am Men's & Women's Bible Study	30 6:15-Weds Night Church Prayer Meeting			
