

WORDS OF GRACE

A Publication of GracePoint Church

ENTRUSTED, NOT ENTITLED

“Again, it (the Kingdom of God) will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his property to them.” Matt 25:14

So begins the familiar parable of the “talents” in which three people are given different amounts of money to invest on behalf of the rich man. All three are then held accountable for how well or how poorly they used this loan. This parable reveals how all of life is on loan from God, and each of us will be held accountable by God for how we used His property.

All across our great nation, God is calling Christians to abandon the American Dream for a life that matters to God’s kingdom. God is calling us to reject the sin of entitlement, and to live as faithful stewards of the abundant blessings entrusted to us as Americans.

The sin and spirit of entitlement affects everyone. Those “living off the system” feel entitled to government money. And those who earn their own money feel entitled to keep it for themselves. It’s the same underlying sin of not acknowledging that everything belongs to God, and everything we have comes from God, and, everything is to be used for God.

God determines which individuals and which nations are blessed with current wealth and which are not. And God’s

plan for helping those without is that those who have will share. God is the ultimate planner of the redistribution of wealth!

But we do not engage in redistribution in the manner in which government tries to force it. Compelled by Christ’s love, we are to voluntarily offer help to those who do not have access to such. While at the same

time, we come alongside to empower those in need to become self-sufficient. Additionally, we must fight to overturn the people and policies that block justice.

As American Christians, we’ve been given great blessings. And along with

great blessing comes great responsibility. We are not to take blame for the world’s poverty and injustice, but we are to take action, to use our blessings to bless. The Biblical response to our excess of personal and national resources is gratitude and generosity.

If we are good stewards of what God has loaned us now, we will someday hear these words from Christ, *“Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!” Matt 25:23*

...everything belongs to God, and everything we have comes from God, and, everything is to be used for God.

Pastor Chris



3100 Windsor Avenue
Dubuque, Iowa
583-3929
gracepointdbq.org

Office Hours
Mon–Fri, 9am–2pm
Volume 14, Issue 4
April 2011
Published Monthly

**GLORIFYING GOD
BY...**

CONNECTING
people to God

LOVING
God and each other

GROWING
in grace and truth

SERVING
Dubuque and the world

Pastor Chris English
pastorchris@gracepointdbq.org

Assoc. Pastor Dana Perreard
pastordana@gracepointdbq.org

Admin. Asst. Judy Adelman
office@gracepointdbq.org

Clerk of Session Pat Kohler
pkteada@yahoo.com

Editor Karen Storlie
karen@storlie.net



Friends at GracePoint,
The children of GracePoint (also known as GraceCompany)
CORDIALLY INVITE YOU TO A COOKIE AND PUNCH OPEN HOUSE,
Palm Sunday, April 17th, 10:30 to 11:00am.
Please come downstairs to check out our new space!

Maundy Thursday April 21, 2011, 7:00pm

Holy Thursday, or Maundy Thursday, commemorates the institution of Holy Communion as we were instructed to do in remembrance of our Savior Jesus Christ until he comes again. The term *Maundy* derives from the Latin word for commandment.

We will have an interactive prayer time incorporating the stations of the cross and Holy Communion. Please invite your friends and family to join us. Everyone is welcome.

Resurrection Sunrise Service April 24, 2011, 6:00am Grand River Center, in the River Room

This is a joint service with First Baptist, UD Seminary, and GracePoint.
Please arrive early as the service will start promptly at 6:00am.

Join us for a Sunrise Breakfast on Resurrection Sunday!

April 24, 2011
9:30 to 10:45am
GracePoint
Fellowship Center



Sponsors and cooks:

GracePoint's Men's Prayer Breakfast members!

Your donation for breakfast will go toward the Mexico Mission Trip.

Mexico Mission Trip News

Alert: The dates for the trip to help our brothers and sisters in Mexico have been changed. The trip is now planned for next March during spring break for the Dubuque Community Schools—**March 10 to 17, 2012**. The new date allows for more fundraising time and for people to arrange time off so more can go to help build the church in Cancun.

Please keep praying about your involvement. The new final commitment date will be set for late Fall. Right now, volunteers are needed to help (even to be a point person) for the following fundraising ideas.

- Sonrise Breakfast on Resurrection Sunday
- Selling Domino's coupon books
- Hot Dog Day at Central True Value
- Busing tables at Pizza Ranch
- Working with Per Mar security at Big 10 football/basketball events
- Rummage sale(s) with bake sale and breakfast
- Movie night
- Car wash(es)



The Men's Prayer Breakfast members are organizing and preparing the Sonrise Breakfast. See the invitation in this newsletter.

Pastor Dana from GracePoint and Grace Hammer from First Presbyterian are planning the rummage sales. Start saving items now for the first sale at GracePoint on May 20 and 21.

Please let Beverly VanDerZyl at GracePoint or Gilda Samuels at First Presbyterian know how God is calling you to be involved in Building the Body of Christ.



Celebrating a Graduation This Spring?

We want to honor graduates this spring. Please contact the office with the name of a graduate who is a GracePoint member or a regular attender, or the child of a member or a regular attender. In May, our graduates will have special recognition during our worship and fellowship times.

GracePath Spring Classes Beginning April 10th

God is the Gospel – Pastor Chris

What is the good news, exactly? Forgiveness? Freedom from guilt? Eternal life? These are wonderful, but they're peripheral blessings. God himself is the message of the gospel! Saturated with Scripture, centered on the cross, and seriously joyful, this study leads us to satisfaction for the deep hungers of the soul. It touches us at the root of life where practical transformation gets its daily power. It awakens our longing for Christ and opens our eyes to His beauty. Format: Six, 30-minute video teachings by Pastor John Piper, followed by group discussion. A study guide will be available at no cost.

Bible Survey: New Testament – Dr. Mindi Thompson

Dr. Thompson will continue her popular Bible survey and take us into the New Testament. This is where we've been headed all year. Come and join us as God's story of redemption comes together in the gospels and letters of the New Testament. There are no materials to purchase for this class.

Biblical Marriage: Love and War – Frank and Gaye Grote

Come discover how to step into the great adventure of the fruitful marriage God has waiting for you and your spouse together. You and your spouse will discover how your individual journeys are growing into a story of meaning much greater than anything you could do or be on your own. This class incorporates an \$8.00 participant guide, small group discussion, and video teaching from John and Stasi Eldredge.

Managing Our Finances God's Way – Don and Wilma Sanders

This is from Crown Financial Ministries, based on the truth that everything, including our money, belongs to God and we are to be good managers and stewards of what He gives us. How do we translate this truth into practice when it comes to saving and spending, debt, investing, budgeting and giving? If desired, a separate one-on-one session can be scheduled to help you develop a personal spending plan. This course will utilize a video teaching, class discussion, and a \$15 study guide for each family.

Scholarships are available to cover materials.

We want everyone at GracePoint to be able to participate in the class of their choice. If the cost of materials is a concern for you, we can help with a scholarship. Please talk to Stephanie Lange or Mary Hirschey about this.

Global Missions Report

Furrs in France

Chris and Kirsten Furr are living out their call from God as World Outreach missionaries commissioned by the Evangelical Presbyterian Church. They live in the outskirts of Paris, France, with their two small children, Maren and Reece. Soon their third child will be born, and their newsletter title will change to “Five Furrs in France.”

In partnership with another couple, Lorenzo and Marie-Alice Monge, the Furrs have started a church, Eglise de la Brie, in Solers, France. Hospitality was offered to neighbors long before there was a church site to invite them to attend. With the trust and authentic community that has developed, lives are being changed.

An organized monthly event called Bi Dieu Dul (roughly translated as “a God Thing”) began in the Monges’ living room. Neighbor after neighbor came. Now housed in a local Catholic church, Bi Dieu Dul teaches children and parents that come from surrounding communities about God through the dramas, costumes, songs, and crafts.

In January, the congregation started its first worship service, called Celebration, held in a large farmhouse in the community. Celebration is the culmination of years of investing in, and genuinely caring for, the community. The vision is to reach the 60,000 people in Solers and nearby villages.

Another way they hope to connect to the community is through Chris’ art. The following praise report is taken from a recent newsletter.

Chris took the week between Christmas and New Year to really get his studio in order. He is happy to report that he is in the studio regularly, is producing art, and has garnered a good bit of attention. Already, he has been approached by several people to teach a calligraphy course. This has been a great way for him to have a real presence in the community, and he looks forward to seeing how God will use this. For a look at his latest project and a few pictures of the studio, follow this link: <http://www.facebook.com/album.php?aid=288357&id=592393348&l=c03f4c56f6>

Thank you GracePoint people for giving generously so that we can continue to help Chris and Kirsten Furr spread the Good News of God’s grace in France. Please pray for their outreach ministry and for their growing family.

Beverly VanDerZyl

Global Missions Team member



2011



2011

Sunday	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 11:30a Baptism Class Women's Spring Gathering 1:30-3:30p
3 8:00a Vocal Choir Rehearsal 8:45a Traditions 9:30a Horizons Band 9:45a Bible Classes 9:45a Guys and Gals 10:35a Fellowship Time 11:00a Horizons 6:00p Grace Underground	4 6:00p Food Pantry	5 6:30p Precepts	6 6:15a Men's Prayer Breakfast 9:00a Precepts 5:30p Bell Choir 5:30p FE Praise Band 6:30p Fresh Encounters 7:30p Fellowship Team	7	8	9 11:30a Baptism Class 7:00p Christ In the Passover
10 8:00a Vocal Choir Rehearsal 8:45a Traditions 9:30a Horizons Band 9:45a Bible Classes 10:35a Fellowship Time 11:00a Horizons 1:30p Bethany Home 6:00p Grace Underground	11 6:00p Food Pantry	12 9:00a Missional Project Ladies 6:30p Precepts	13 6:15a Men's Prayer Breakfast 9:00a Precepts 5:30p Bell Choir 7:30p Deacons Meeting	14	15	16 8:00a—1:00p Concert of Prayer at Four Mounds
17 Palm Sunday 8:45a Traditions 9:30a Horizons Band 9:45a Bible Classes 10:35a Fellowship Time 11:00a Horizons 6:00p Grace Underground	18  6:00p Food Pantry	19	20 6:15a Men's Prayer Breakfast 5:30p Bell Choir 5:30p FE Praise Band 7:00p Some Elder Ministry Teams	21 11:30a Red Hat Ladies 7:00p Maundy Thursday	22 Good Friday Office Closed	23
24 Resurrection Sunday 6:00a Sunrise Service 8:00a Vocal Choir 8:45a Traditions 9:30a Horizons Band 9:30a Sunrise Breakfast 11:00a Horizons 6:00p Grace Underground	25 6:00p Food Pantry	26	27 6:15a Men's Prayer Breakfast 5:00p Golden Oldies 5:30p Bell Choir 7:00p Session	28	29 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;">Presbytery Meeting</div>	30

CLERK'S REPORT**Membership to Date**

Active	153
Inactive	3
Perm. Inactive	<u>6</u>
Total	162

January Treasurer's Report

General Fund Beginning Balance, December 1, 2010		\$15,798.44
Total General Fund Receipts	\$30,358.36	
Subtotal Beginning Balance & Receipts	\$46,156.80	
Subtotal Disbursements/Allocations	\$20,848.99	
General Fund Ending Balance, December 31, 2010		\$25,307.81

February Treasurers Report

General Fund Beginning Balance, December 1, 2010		\$25,307.81
Total General Fund Receipts	\$19,077.48	
Subtotal Beginning Balance & Receipts	\$44,385.29	
Subtotal Disbursements/Allocations	\$24,167.58	
General Fund Ending Balance, December 31, 2010		\$20,217.71

In the March newsletter it was stated Wilma Sanders was appointed to the Foundation Board. It should have stated Mary Burns was appointed. Mary Burns and Ben Temple are the elders representing Session on the Foundation Board.

The resignation of Ben Cernek as Elder was approved by Session.

Special Offerings for 2011 were approved as: Easter - Tri-State Pregnancy Center/Clarity Clinic; Thanksgiving - EPC Thanksgiving Offering; Christmas - Dubuque Rescue Mission.

The 1st Quarter Mission Giving was approved:

EPC General Assembly		
Furr, Chris & Kirsten		\$300.00
Hamd, Robert		575.00
Barber, John & Barbara		250.00
Total EPC Quarterly Giving		\$1,225.00
General Quarterly Giving		
Aisenbrey, Lou & Debbie – Wycliffe		\$250.00
Busse, Durwood & Barbara – Pres. Frontier		250.00
Dubuque Rescue Mission		225.00
Elangewe, Isaac (Cameroon, Africa)		250.00
Grote, Scott & Jessica – MMS Aviation		600.00
Hsu, John & Nellie – E Free Church		200.00

(Continued on page 8)

GOLDEN OLDIES

Golden Oldies will meet on Wednesday, April 27th, 5:00pm, at Sunshine Family Restaurant.

Sign up at the Connect Center on the Sunday before the event or call Bob Boelk, 557-9166.

All seniors are welcome!

**GUYS AND GALS**

On the first Sunday of the month, after the first service, a group of seniors meet for brunch at Chuck and Jo's restaurant on Iowa Street. All seniors are invited to join us. If you have any questions, contact Betty Muellich at 582-3505.



**Monday
April 18**

BIRTHDAYS

5 Kylie Mae Donovan
 5 Tom Scherf
 5 Betty Muellich
 5 Brandon Elliot
 6 Brianna Jean Bell
 7 Ken Godwin
 8 Austin Trausch
 12 Benjamin Godwin
 14 Glenda Temple
 17 Judy Godwin
 17 Sara Scherf
 17 Melissa Donovan
 18 Ralph Vandenberg
 22 Janann Reiter
 22 John Cottrell
 25 Matthew Duehr
 26 Dorothy Thomas
 28 Grant Zivojnovich
 29 Marla Irion



ANNIVERSARIES

4 Glenda and Ben Temple
 27 Jan and Pete Jenner
 28 Sharon and Dan Baker

Check Out the Library

We receive donations of new and used books and videos all the time. There is always something new in the library.

The library is open Sundays from 8:30am till noon. If you have any new books or videos you would like to donate to the library, contact Mable or Bob Boelk, 557-9166.



(Clerk's Report continued.)

Jews for Jesus – Stan & Holly Meyer	200.00
Leverington, John & Becky – Wycliffe	250.00
Prasad, Philip – Witnessing Ministries	275.00
Shiloh Christian Children's Ministries	200.00
Tri-State Pregnancy Center/Clarity Clinic	225.00
UD Theological Seminary	100.00
Welde, Matt – US Center for World Mission	275.00
Yeats, Ted & Karey – Navigators	250.00
B.J. Weber – New York Fellowship	250.00
Total General Quarterly Giving	\$3,800.00

Special Giving

Per Agreement – PC(USA) Mission	
Lim, Choon & Yen Lee	500.00
Siloam Eye Hospital	500.00
Outreach Foundation PC(USA)	500.00
Total PC(USA) Quarterly Giving	\$1,500.00
Total Mission Giving 1 st Quarter	\$6,425.00

April Events

- Six- Hour Seminar – Bridges Out of Poverty – June 4th – 9:00am
- Jews for Jesus Presentation on Saturday, April 9th at 7:00pm
- Concert of Prayer, Saturday, April 16th – 8:00 – 1:00pm at Four Mounds.
- Maundy Thursday Service, April 21st – 7:00pm
- Easter Sunrise Services, Sunday, April 24th – 6:00am – Grand River Center, River Room

Nine new members were approved by Session at a Special Session Meeting, March 20th, and received as members of GracePoint: Barbara and LeRoy Berg, Dave and Lisa Gaylor, Vic and Marilyn Learn, Barry and Shelley Montague and Frank Shepherd.

Pat Kohler, Clerk of Session



Middle and High School Youth

6:00 to 8:00pm
Sunday evenings

APRIL SCHEDULE

- April 3 GraceUnderground 6-8 pm, youth room
- April 10 New GracePath module (Hole in Our Gospel series over) Teens back in the youth room for morning class. GraceUnderground 6-8 pm, youth room
- April 17 Palm Sunday "Youth Sunday" in worship
PARENTS, please be prepared to have your child available to help serve in worship (ushering, reading scripture, etc.). Some youth will serve in both venues (8:45 and 11:00).
GraceUnderground 6-8 pm, youth room
- April 24 Resurrection Sunday, no GraceUnderground

SUMMER CALENDAR

July 8—10 Lifest, Oshkosh

Lifest is a multi-day campout Christian music festival that features first-rate musicians and speakers.

See <http://www.lifest.com/>

Cost: the price of the ticket

From Suite101: "What Teens Need"

3.To feel competent. Give them opportunities to assume responsibilities, to help others, to achieve, and to feel pride.

I was very impressed by the work of the young men and women (teens) who helped with Tri-State work camp. Special thanks to Vincent Godwin and Mimi Ellert-Beck, GraceUndergrounders who participated. I look forward to more opportunities for teens to show their mature and helpful service this summer with Mission Peoria.

Connecting
Loving
Growing
SERVING

PRAYER CHAIN

To start a prayer, call Pat Kohler or Lois Trausch-Wolfe.

Daytime Prayer Chain

- Pat Kohler
583-8978
- Gerry Vandenberg
583-5338
- Ramona Hennings
583-8739
- Edie Ege
583-1974
- Wilma Sanders
582-7346
- Mable Boelk
557-9166
- Sue Lemon
583-4454
- Lois Trausch-Wolfe
583-0534

(Lois starts the evening chain.)

Evening Prayer Chain

- Sharon Baker
588-2115
- Glenda Temple
582-0464
- Pam Hillary
556-5846
- Karen Storlie
556-7548
- Kim or Jerry Bell
582-4956

SERVANTS OF THE LORD

Traditions (8:45am)

- Ushers (April)** Mike Boland, Ralph Vandenberg
- Greeters (April)** Verna Davis, Eileen Schulze
- Communion Preparers** Betty Carlson, Sharon Baker
- Communion Servers** Bob and Mable Boelk, Dwayne and Martha Intveld

Prayers of the People Prayer Team Ministry

- | | | |
|--------|--------------|--------------------------------|
| Apr 3 | Dan Baker | Mary Burns, Martha Intveld |
| Apr 10 | Dan Baker | Pam Hillary, Pauline Brimeyer |
| Apr 17 | Doug Storlie | Dixie Shaffer, Elaine Boettner |
| Apr 24 | Doug Storlie | Kate and Gary Duehr |

Horizons (11:00am)

- Ushers (April)** Terry Thompson, Don Sanders
- Greeters (April)** Doug Mulder, Dixie Shaffer
- Communion Servers** Tim and Connie Walsh

Child Care (Horizons)

	Infant	Preschool
Apr 3	Sue Lemon	Brandon English
Apr 10	Alex Wiest	Glenda Temple
Apr 17	Pauline Brimeyer	Dan Brimeyer
Apr 24	Angela Godwin	Angela Baumann

**MISSIONAL PROJECT LADIES
AND RED HAT LADIES**

The Missional Project Ladies are meeting April 8th at 9:00am at GracePoint. The Red Hat Ladies will be meeting April 24th at 11:30am. Watch the bulletin announcements for the place.

Concert of Prayer: *Whispers and Shouts*

April 16, 2011
8:00am to 1:00pm
Four Mounds Conference Center

Please join us for a morning of prayer and praise on Saturday, April 16, 2011, at Four Mounds Conference Center at 8:00am. There will be a continental breakfast available starting at 7:30am. We will have lunch at noon.

Our theme this year is “Whispers and Shouts.” We will have individual and corporate prayer, live music, devotionals, and a prayer walk. Anyone who attended last year will tell you this was a wonderful experience!

Please join us! Sign up at the Connect Center on Sunday or call the church office (583-3929) today. This is for teens through adults. Be sure to INVITE SOMEONE who may enjoy the morning! This can be a great opportunity for outreach to our community.

Your ONLY COST is \$9.00 for lunch and you can pay at the event.

This event is sponsored by the Prayer and Care Team.

CHRIST IN THE PASSOVER

April 9, 2011, 7:00pm
GracePoint

What do the Jewish Passover and Jesus’ last supper have in common? Our speaker from Jews for Jesus will answer that question as he presents “Christ In the Passover.” You’ll gain wonderful insights on how the pieces of God’s plan of salvation fit together, and you’ll remember this visual display of the Passover pageantry for years to come. Be sure to invite your friends and family.



Bridges Out of Poverty Training Day

On Saturday, June 5, GracePoint will host a community-wide Bridges Out of Poverty Training Day. Questions raised at the Bridges Out of Poverty overview held in March will be answered during the day of training. The “aha!” moments will accumulate, and we will be better equipped to walk beside people in need. Please keep the date open on your calendar.



3100 Windsor Avenue
Dubuque IA 52001-8154

April 2011
Volume 14, Issue 4
Published Monthly

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Dubuque, Iowa
Permit No. 474

Return Service Requested

GLORIFYING GOD BY

CONNECTING people to God

LOVING God and each other

GROWING in grace and truth

SERVING Dubuque and the world

April Special Events

- ⇒ Women's Spring Gathering / 1:30 to 3:30pm / Saturday / April 2
- ⇒ Christ In the Passover / 7:00pm / Saturday / April 9
- ⇒ Concert of Prayer / 8:00am to 1:00pm / Saturday / April 16th
- ⇒ Maundy Thursday / 7:00pm / Thursday / April 21
- ⇒ Sunrise Service / 6:00am / Sunday / April 24
- ⇒ Traditions Resurrection Service / 8:45am / Sunday / April 24
- ⇒ Sunrise Breakfast / 9:30 to 10:45am / Sunday / April 24
- ⇒ Horizons Resurrection Service / 11:00am / Sunday / April 24