



# 2007 ANNUAL REPORT

grace  
San Luis Obispo

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# 2007 Annual Congregational Meeting

*Sunday, June 3, 2007*

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# 2007 Annual Congregational Meeting

*Sunday, June 3, 2007*

## Agenda

Welcome & Opening Prayer	Jim Jeffrey, Elder Chairman
2006/2007 Reflections	Tim Theule, Lead Pastor
Leadership Transitions & Introductions	Ted Malley, Elder
Many Thanks: <i>Kathy Borland, Business Administrator</i> <i>Tom Phillips, Finance Trustee Board</i> <i>Mike Borland, AWANA Commander</i>	
Welcome Aboard: <i>Erik Ernstrom, AWANA Commander</i> <i>Matt Esswein, College Ministry Assistant</i>	
Elder Rotation, Sabbaticals & New Elder Candidate Introduction	Rick Ernstrom, Elder
2007/2008 Annual Budget Report	Todd Talley, Treasurer
Affirmation of 2007/2008 Church Officers	Scott Morton, Elder
Secretary: Jeff Mundorf Treasurer: Todd Talley	
By-Laws Revision Explanation & Summary	Ron Johnston, Elder
Thanksgiving Prayer	Leon Maksoudian, Elder
Special Surprise	Tim Theule, Lead Pastor

# Lead Pastor's Report

## Tim Theule

2006/2007 has been another exhilarating year for me serving as Lead Pastor here at Grace. I feel so privileged to serve our Great God at this great church, among you great people, in this great place. Thanks for welcoming, loving and caring for our family. This year, like all years, has brought with it both new challenges, changes and joys. And so often, the joy comes through the challenges! From my vantage point, our year together has been characterized by:

1. **Looking Upward.** We do this when we gather for worship and study God's Word together each week in all our ministry settings from the worship service to ABF's to the very youngest toddler Sunday School classes. This year, we completed our LONG study of Matthew where we looked to Jesus, the image of the invisible God, and to His journey to the cross and through the grave. Matthew is in the bag! Last fall, we worked through the book of Philippians, where we discovered that God is the source of all our joy. This winter, we studied Jonah, which reminded us that God is the source of all our mission and purpose as the church in the world. This is what God wants, first and foremost, more than anything else. . . . for His people to look upward. Let's keep doing it!
2. **Looking Forward:** Looking upward also invites us to look forward. The God of the past and present is also the God who holds the future in His hand. He has prepared good works for us, so that we might walk in them. He knows the plans He has for us and for the world. This year we looked forward by faith as we gave TO the Lord and TOWARD the future through our Building on the Legacy Capital Campaign. We affirmed together that we believe that God is not finished with Grace Church yet. . . that He wants to do MORE in us and through us as we trust Him by faith. So many served and so many gave. It was a "turning point" and formative spring for me as your Lead Pastor and one I will remember for a long, long time. Thanks for giving and believing. Stay with us, and keep looking forward, in your giving and prayers as our vision unfolds.
3. **Looking Outward:** Looking upward must result in looking outward, for the God who brings us in by His Grace, also always sends us out with His grace. This has been a year of mobilization and spiritual gift employment. This year, the Lord brought us Danny Martin, whom we called to serve as our half-time Pastor of Vocation and Missions. This year, we sent more on short term mission's trips than ever before. This year, we hosted more community and arts events on our campus than ever before. This year, we provided a warmer welcome to our hundreds of visitors than ever before. Our future usefulness and growth depends on our continued looking outward.

**What's Ahead?** The work of ministry will never be done until our Lord returns, so we must labor on. The last two years have been particularly busy years, so I am anticipating a slightly slower and more relaxed pace for our ministry this year. But as I look head to 2007/2008, I have identified 3 primary goals that I'd like to see accomplished this next year:

1. **Annex Renewal.** After years of planning, you have given. The plans are now at the city for "plan check." I am eager to see this project completed and those spaces more effectively utilized and enjoyed for ministry and community events.
2. **Hiring a Youth Pastor.** We've got to get it done! Pastor Ken continues to serve faithfully and effectively, but we've committed to this transition. The growth of our ministry in some other important areas depends on this transition. Continue praying for the soon call of God's man for our Youth Ministry.
3. **Constitution Revision and Implementation of Membership.** Our constitution has served us well over these 75 years, but we believe it's time for a significant revision that will serve us moving forward into the future. Likewise, we desire to more effectively care for and shepherd those the Lord is bringing to us. Grace continues to be a very dynamic place, with lots of people coming and going. It's difficult to know who's here with us and who has moved on. We see formal membership as a both an effective way to lead folks to a covenant commitment to our ministry and an important means of caring for the flock. Be praying for this important, but delicate, process.

Besides these "Big 3," there are many other needs and opportunities we must keep striving to address, among them: continued leadership development, a better and more effective assimilation process for newcomers, the training up of new Growth Group leaders, the multiplication and mobilization of our Growth Groups for community ministry and service, continued investment in our strategic college ministry, the expansion of our multi-media and tech ministry, the training and sending of more and more short term missions teams, the development of a men's ministry, a more effective and outreaching ministry to seniors. . . . The list goes on and on. We can't do it all this next year, but may the Lord see fit to help us do some. So let us, by faith, continue to push upward, forward and outward. I give thanks to the Lord for our elders, our staff and for you!

## 2006/2007 Budget Review

	2005/2006	2006/2007	% change
Total Budget	\$1,175, 254	\$1,230,804	4.70%
Total Income	\$1,169,359	\$1,193,253	2%
Budget Shortfall	\$5,895	\$37,551	
Total Expenses	\$1,126,285	\$1,104,700	-1.90%
<b>Total Surplus</b>	<b>\$43,074</b>	<b>\$88,553</b>	

## 2007/2008 Annual Budget Summary

Acct	Description	2006-2007 Budget	2007-2008 Budget	% +/-	% of Budget
199	ADMINISTRATION TOTAL	\$69,380.00	\$74,010.00	6.7%	6.0%
299	FACILITIES TOTAL	\$84,596.00	\$82,650.00	-2.3%	6.7%
399	MISSIONS TOTAL	\$145,625.00	\$147,625.00	1.4%	12.0%
599	MINISTRY TOTAL	\$78,192.00	\$77,192.00	-1.3%	6.3%
999	STAFF TOTAL	\$812,011.00	\$808,327.00	-0.5%	65.7%
899	CAPITAL / CONTINGENCIES TOTAL	\$41,000.00	\$41,000.00	0.0%	3.3%
1000	GRAND TOTALS	\$1,230,804.00	\$1,230,804.00	0.0%	100.0%
1025	MONTHLY AVERAGES	\$102,567.00	\$102,567.00	0.0%	
1050	WEEKLY AVERAGES	\$23,669.31	\$23,669.31	0.0%	

### GIVING SUMMARY:

	2006-2007 Budget	2006-2007 Actual	2007-2008 Budget
Annual Giving	\$1,230,804.00	\$1,193,253.00	\$1,230,804.00
Monthly Giving	\$102,567.00	\$99,437.75	\$102,567.00
Weekly Giving	\$23,669.31	\$22,947.17	\$23,669.31

\*2006-2007 giving includes interest in the amount of \$ 21,199.00

## 2007/2008 Annual Budget

Acct	Description	06-07 Budget	07-08 Budget	% +/-
<b>100</b>	<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>			
102	Advertising	\$6,000.00	\$5,000.00	
104	Bank Charges	\$400.00	\$600.00	
106	Computer Upgrades	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00	
108	Computer Support	\$6,000.00	\$6,060.00	
109	ACS		\$3,000.00	
110	DSL Internet Access	\$780.00	\$850.00	
112	Maintenance Contracts	\$22,000.00	\$25,300.00	
114	Copier Toner	\$13,000.00	\$13,000.00	
116	Office Supplies	\$9,000.00	\$9,000.00	
118	Postage	\$4,200.00	\$3,800.00	
130	Admin Staff Development	\$2,000.00	\$1,000.00	
140	Risk Management	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	
150	Dues & Subscriptions	\$1,000.00	\$1,400.00	
<b>199</b>	<b>ADMINISTRATION TOTAL</b>	<b>\$69,380.00</b>	<b>\$74,010.00</b>	<b>6.7%</b>

<b>200</b>	<b>FACILITIES</b>			
204	Custodial Supplies	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	
208	Insurance - DOT/EPL	\$1,945.00	\$2,050.00	
209	Insurance-Umbrella Policy	\$1,991.00	\$2,250.00	
210	Insurance Commercial FKA- Fire/Liability	\$10,600.00	\$10,600.00	
212	Insurance - Vehicles	\$1,660.00	\$1,450.00	
216	Maintenance - Building	\$13,000.00	\$13,000.00	
218	Maintenance - Elevator	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	
220	Maintenance - Vehicles	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00	
221	Maintenance Contracts	\$6,600.00	\$6,600.00	
222	Transportation	\$300.00	\$900.00	
224	Utilities	\$31,000.00	\$30,000.00	
226	Interior Design	\$5,000.00	\$3,500.00	
227	Seasonal Décor	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	
228	Landscaping	\$1,000.00	\$800.00	
<b>299</b>	<b>FACILITIES TOTAL</b>	<b>\$84,596.00</b>	<b>\$82,650.00</b>	<b>-2.3%</b>

<b>300</b>	<b>MISSIONS</b>			
308	Miscellaneous	\$1,165.00	\$1,165.00	
310	Missions Conference	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00	
312	Missions Support	\$123,960.00	\$123,960.00	
314	Short Term Missions	\$10,000.00	\$12,000.00	
318	Agency Support	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	
<b>399</b>	<b>MISSIONS TOTAL</b>	<b>\$145,625.00</b>	<b>\$147,625.00</b>	<b>1.4%</b>

<b>400-700</b>	<b>MINISTRY</b>			
	<b>Welcome, Fellowship, Care &amp; Community</b>			
410	Welcome/Visitation	\$5,000.00	\$4,000.00	
420	Community & Mercy Ministries	\$1,700.00	\$1,700.00	
430	Flowers (Bereavement/Illness)	\$600.00	\$600.00	
214	ACE Kitchen Supplies	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00	
322	Radio Ministry	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00	
514	Fall Kick-Off	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00	
<b>499</b>	<b>Welcome, Fellowship, C&amp;C Total</b>	<b>\$27,300.00</b>	<b>\$26,300.00</b>	<b>-3.7%</b>

	<b>Worship Ministries</b>			
602	Outside Musicians	\$3,000.00	\$4,000.00	
604	Licenses	\$600.00	\$600.00	
606	Music	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	
607	Children's Music	\$300.00	\$300.00	
608	Special Programs (Christmas/Easter)	\$1,500.00	\$1,000.00	
610	Misc. Publications	\$250.00	\$250.00	
612	Pulpit Supply	\$1,500.00	\$1,000.00	
613	Piano Tuning/maintenance	\$300.00	\$300.00	
614	Tape Ministry	\$500.00	\$500.00	
616	Tech Ministry	\$600.00	\$600.00	
618	Worship Supplies	\$600.00	\$600.00	
619	Christmas Parade Float	\$500.00	\$500.00	
<b>699</b>	<b>Worship Ministries Total</b>	<b>\$12,650.00</b>	<b>\$12,650.00</b>	<b>0.0%</b>

Acct	Description	06-07 Budget	07-08 Budget	% +/-
	<b>Adult Ministries</b>			
501	G3 Leader Training	\$500.00	\$500.00	
502	G3 Materials	\$400.00	\$400.00	
504	Adult Bible Fellowship Training	\$400.00	\$400.00	
505	Adult Bible Fellowship Curriculum	\$300.00	\$300.00	
506	Library	\$500.00	\$500.00	
508	Men's Ministries	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	
510	Supplies	\$100.00	\$100.00	
512	Women's Ministries	\$3,450.00	\$3,450.00	
519	<b>Adult Ministries Total</b>	<b>\$6,650.00</b>	<b>\$6,650.00</b>	0.0%
	<b>College Ministries</b>			
550	Activities	\$1,500.00	\$1,300.00	
551	Camping	\$500.00	\$700.00	
554	Hospitality	\$650.00	\$500.00	
555	Leadership / Development	\$500.00	\$1,200.00	
556	Materials / Supplies	\$750.00	\$550.00	
557	Outreach	\$1,800.00	\$1,450.00	
558	Service Ministries	\$300.00	\$300.00	
559	WOW Week	\$800.00	\$800.00	
559.5	<b>College Ministries Total</b>	<b>\$6,800.00</b>	<b>\$6,800.00</b>	0.0%
	<b>Youth Ministries</b>			
560	Activities	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	
562	Boy Scouts	\$392.00	\$392.00	
564	Camping Ministries	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	
566	Evangelism / Outreach	\$750.00	\$750.00	
568	Fall Forward	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00	
570	Hospitality	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	
572	Materials / Supplies	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	
574	Parent Ministry	\$250.00	\$250.00	
576	Service Ministries	\$700.00	\$700.00	
578	Student Leadership	\$700.00	\$700.00	
580	Transportation	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	
589	<b>Youth Ministries Total</b>	<b>\$12,592.00</b>	<b>\$12,592.00</b>	0.0%
	<b>Children's Ministries</b>			
520	Awana	\$1,050.00	\$1,050.00	
524	Curriculum	\$4,000.00	\$4,400.00	
526	Educational Supplies	\$1,800.00	\$1,200.00	
528	Miscellaneous	\$400.00	\$600.00	
532	Nursery Supplies	\$350.00	\$350.00	
534	Children's Choir	\$600.00	\$500.00	
536	Teacher Recognition	\$600.00	\$600.00	
538	Harvest Festival	\$900.00	\$1,000.00	
540	VBS - Family Conference	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	
549	<b>Children's Ministries Total</b>	<b>\$12,200.00</b>	<b>\$12,200.00</b>	0.0%
599	<b>MINISTRY TOTAL</b>	<b>\$78,192.00</b>	<b>\$77,192.00</b>	-1.3%
999	<b>STAFF TOTAL</b>	<b>\$812,011.00</b>	<b>\$808,327.00</b>	-0.5%
800	<b>CAPITAL / CONTINGENCIES</b>			
810	Capital Expenditures	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	
820	Contingencies - General	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	
830	Contingencies - Elder	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	
840	Contingencies - Finance Trustees	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00	
860	Annuity Payment	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00	
899	<b>CAPITAL / CONTINGENCIES TOTAL</b>	<b>\$41,000.00</b>	<b>\$41,000.00</b>	0.0%
1000	<b>GRAND TOTALS</b>	<b>\$1,230,804.00</b>	<b>\$1,230,804.00</b>	0.0%
1025	<b>MONTHLY AVERAGES</b>	<b>\$102,567.00</b>	<b>\$102,567.00</b>	0.0%
1050	<b>WEEKLY AVERAGES</b>	<b>\$23,669.31</b>	<b>\$23,669.31</b>	0.0%

## Building on the Legacy Vision Report

### Scott Morton, Chairman

John Bisagno, pastor emeritus at First Baptist Church in Houston Texas says:

***“I love to raise money for the cause of Christ and to help others do so well. There are two reasons why I love to do this, I love to see the Kingdom of God grow and I love to teach people to give because I believe that I’m doing them a great favor!”***

Wow, what a blessing we experienced this year working together and giving toward the future that God has for our ministries here at Grace Church! For the second year in a row we experienced “Life Together” celebrating the gospel with a large banquet in truly Old Testament style. Some came to the banquet with fear and trembling others came with excitement and anticipation, all left sensing the very presence of God as we laid our gifts before the throne of God.

Many people worked so hard in the process of this campaign, but I would like to recognize nine people in particular. **Donny Valliere, Phil Gray, Pat Rusco, Wayne Brown, Kay Cementina, Erik Ernstrom, Peter Secord, Connie Walter and Todd Talley.** These people invested countless hours of their time attending meetings, writing and responding to e-mails, researching, discussing and the list goes on. It is so evident to me that God used these people; their talents, gifts and skills to minister to you and offer the sweet aroma of service as an expression of worship back to our Lord. Thank you fellow laborers.

Do you remember? This campaign started at one year ago at our 2006 Annual Meeting with the our announcement, “The building fund is now open!” Throughout the Summer and Fall, we refined and expanded our vision to include 3 priorities: **Parking, Property Acquisition, and Annex Renewal.** At our congregational vision meetings in November and December we gave you an opportunity to respond to these priorities and you overwhelmingly supported this direction. We presented a goal of \$2 million and on April 29<sup>th</sup> you responded via 3 year pledges and one time gifts by almost exactly hitting that goal right on the nose that very night. More than \$2,125,000 has been pledged so far to the Lord and toward the future. Our Building on the Legacy vision is not done, it’s only just begun.

Our Annex Renewal plans have been submitted to the city for the first round of reviews. We are prayerfully hoping to formally begin our remodel project toward the end of summer. Join us in praying for a smooth and streamlined through city plan check.

Our Parking and Property Acquisition Team has been actively contacting adjacent and surrounding property owners expressing our possible interest to acquire more property and to explore shared parking possibilities. Join us in praying that the Lord will grant us favor with our neighbors and will provide both parking and property to meet our needs.

We encourage you to send in your pledges on time and to hang on and be faithful to what you’ve pledged. When we begin to remodel the Annex, we will start the process of spending the money you’ve pledged, the only way we will be able to keep the project running smoothly and at the lowest possible cost is by your faithful giving.

***“To God be the Glory great things he hath done.”***

# Finance Trustee Board Report

## Jeff Mundorf, Finance Trustee Chairman

“The earth is the Lord’s and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein.” Psalm 24:1

Likewise, all that Grace Church has, it’s property, people and programs, belongs to the Lord. The Finance Trustee Board has the responsibility of serving the Lord through stewardship of Grace Church’s God given resources. We oversee the financial, and many of the operational aspects of these resources and we seek to serve and glorify our Lord in how Grace Church’s God given treasures are utilized.

Our responsibilities include the following:

### **BUDGETING**

- Develop annual budget in close liaison with the pastors, elders and Grace Church ministries
- Oversee income and expenditures throughout the budget cycle
- Track trends in giving, attendance and expenditures to anticipate future needs

### **FINANCIAL CONTINGENCIES**

- Make recommendations regarding periodic non-budgeted financial needs such as: Purchases of new vehicles and equipment, contributions to disaster relief

### **POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

- Develop and update necessary policies and procedure for the many activities that take place at Grace Church

### **PERSONNEL**

- Developed and maintain a comprehensive employee manual
- Keep abreast of changes in employment law
- Develop a comprehensive system for classifying, reviewing and promoting staff and employees
- Develop well defined job descriptions
- Review, update and maintain employee benefits such as health insurance and COLA

### **INSURANCE AND TAXES**

- Review insurance needs and address as necessary
- Oversee compliance with statutes regarding Grace Church’s status as a tax exempt entity

### **FACILITIES**

- Work with the Facility Board regarding the financial aspects of facility maintenance and development
- Work with the Annex Renewal Team and the Building on the Legacy Committee to develop the recent campaign
- Work with the Annex renewal team and parking and property acquisition team as we move forward
- Develop policies and keep abreast of the financial aspects of facility use by outside entities

### **STEWARDSHIP EDUCATION**

- Keep the church body apprised of our corporate stewardship
- Develop an educational program regarding personal stewardship to help individuals in the Grace Church family grow in Christ

### **FUTURE VISION**

- Anticipate the possible future need for expansion, real estate purchase
- Plan for future parking needs
- Plan for future pastoral recruitment and difficult associated issues such as housing

# **Facility Trustee Board Report**

## **Evan Chechopoulos, Facility Trustee Chairman**

The Facility Trustee Board seeks to serve our Lord Jesus Christ and the Grace Church body through responsible stewardship of all church-owned property and assets. Through God's abundant blessing we enjoy a unique community location and desire to maintain a high degree of excellence in relation to our representation to our community for the Glory of God. We pray for wisdom in leadership as we move forward to facilitate the growing ministry needs of our church body.

The Facility Trustee Board oversees all aspects of the facility including buildings and grounds. The Facility Trustee Board has been diligent in prioritizing maintenance projects and authorizing the work to be done by Craig Hughes (Maintenance Staff) or obtaining bids from local vendors. Several teams (listed below) report to the Facility Board for oversight and continuity.

### **A review of property improvements and projects for 2006-2007**

#### **Facility**

- Arranged for addition of sprinklers under sanctuary
- Arranged for addition of fire alarm doors in CE building
- Enlarged Living Stone's classroom
- Added light switches to all entrances of choir room (old library)
- Completed exterior painting of facility front and courtyard
- Added storage area in new 4's and 5's classroom (over old fireplace)
- Added bike racks to Osos side of facility

#### **Maintenance**

- Numerous "fix-it" projects around the facility
- Replaced broken windows around facility

#### **Safety and Security**

- Adopted plan for handling of incident reports
- Added light over Osos Street entrance to Sanctuary
- Added address # on front of Sanctuary

#### **Annex Renewal Project**

- Selected construction manager for project – Dave McCoy with Top Flight construction
- Plans for renewal project submitted to city

#### **Transportation Team**

- Sold our old bus (no longer suitable for our needs)
- Obtained long term parking for new bus

#### **Tech Team**

- Made improvements to Grace web site
- Added conduit for MC / Sanctuary inner-connection
- Ongoing improvement and maintenance of all tech related services
- Drafted Tech Team Mission Statement
- Added Media Center console

#### **Landscape Team**

- Selected new trees for front of sanctuary
- Removed tree in front of sanctuary

#### **Interior Design/Seasonal Décor Team**

- Added olive trees to sanctuary platform
- Finalized colors for facility exterior

#### **ACE / Kitchen Team**

- Multiple items to facilitate a clean and safe working environment

# Missions Board Report

## Tom Phillips, Missions Board Chairman

*The light that shines the furthest shines the brightest at home.*

### **Full-Time Missionaries – Agency Support – Short-Term Missionary Support**

During the 2006-2007 fiscal year, Grace Church supported 33 full-time missionaries working with 18 different mission agencies. These 33 missionaries were provided with monthly support checks that totaled \$125,510 for the year. This is just the “tip of the iceberg” for Grace Church missions giving because Grace encourages its members to support its own missionaries on an individual basis. This allows the congregation to make a more direct connection with our missionaries by directly putting their treasure where their heart is (Matthew 6:21). Rona Lee is the most recent member of our body to go out on the mission field. Grace Church also supports four mission organizations on a monthly basis: Child Evangelism Fellowship, Gideons, Radio Bible Class and Young Life. Twenty-seven short-term mission trips were supported during the fiscal year; an investment of \$9,300. The following people have already gone on their trips: Shannon Todd, Cameron Carter, Alan Tonissen, Rona Lee, Janelle Meyer, Rachelle Valliere, Tim Arlen, Danny Martin, Tim Cleath, Ron & Cyndi Hamley, and Betsy Jeffrey. Scheduled to leave soon are Lindsey Lunger, Kristen Gardenhire, Tim Cleath (again), Lissa Buckel, Andy Jeffrey, Katie Herbst (1 year in Uganda), Arijaan Bulk (1 year internship at Cal Poly) and Randy Fowler. In August, Danny Martin will be leading a small group to China. If you know any of these folks, please ask them about the trips.

### **2007 Missionary Prayer & Care Guide**

Each year Grace Church produces a Missionary Prayer & Care Guide that is passed out at the Missions Conference. This guide gives specific information about each of our beloved missionaries. You can learn about each one of our missionaries and use the guide to pray for them and to encourage them by writing, emailing or calling. **Every family at Grace Church should have a Guide and regularly use it to pray for our missionaries!** If you need one, please pick one up tonight or contact one of the members of the Missions Team to obtain your own copy.

### **Missions Conference**

To prepare for this year’s Missions Conference, the congregation was encouraged to read *The Heavenly Man*, which describes the growth of the church in China. 250 books were purchased and passed around. Reverend Peter Xu Yong Ze, founder of the Full Scope Church, spoke to 1,200 people at our three services with the assistance of a translator. We were then blessed to fellowship with Reverend Xu at our Missions Dinner. Eleven visiting missionaries shared with the church in the Ministry Center on Sunday and at Growth Groups throughout the week. Our week concluded with a second Sunday as Dr. Danny Martin encouraged us to get involved with missions. Over 125 responses were collected from the congregation.

### **Mission Team**

The Missions Team is comprised of the following individuals: Tim Cleath; Matt Esswein, College Liaison; Travis Hasson, Secretary; Amy-Lynne Hilderbrand; Leon Maksoudian, Elder Liaison; Danny Martin, Pastor; Edna Mote and Stella Nuncio, Correspondence Team; Glenn Oden; Tom Phillips, Chairman; Wayne Peterson and Shannon Todd, College Liaison. You can contact the Missions Board at [missions@graceslo.org](mailto:missions@graceslo.org). We are grateful to have Matt, Glenn and Shannon join the team this year.

### **Missions Pastor**

The Missions effort at Grace Church has always been led by a lay-board; but the job of missions is immense, and we are now blessed to be joined in the effort by Grace Church’s first-ever missions pastor. Dr. Danny Martin has joined the Grace Church staff as a half-time Pastor of Vocation and Missions. Danny is the founder and President Emeritus of Mission to Unreached Peoples in Seattle and Ambassador-at-Large for Tentmakers International, the tentmaking arm of the World Evangelical Alliance. Danny’s PhD is in Vocational Counseling and he has assisted thousands of believers in discerning God’s will in their lives. It will be exciting to see how God will use Danny’s unique talents and experience here at Grace.

### **Adopt-a-People**

Grace Church stands ready to embark upon new ventures in missions. In addition to continuing the missions program which has been a major part of Grace Church’s legacy, we are hoping to focus our efforts on a particular unreached people group. We hope to recruit many from the congregation to use their expertise in health, education, ethnomusicology, agriculture, business, water resources and mercy ministries to serve as our leadership team. Both long term missionaries and short term teams from Grace will strategically deploy among the people, using their skills to meet felt needs. Everyone in the congregation from Sunday School kids to teens to college students to adults will be involved. We will seek alliances with other churches and missions to more fully develop the expertise and resources that we lack. Our eventual goal is to plant a group of churches among this people group capable of reaching the rest of their group and then sending out their own missionaries to other unreached peoples.

# **Business Administrator's Report**

## **Kathy Borland, Business Administrator**

The office at Grace Church is a very busy place and has become extremely productive and efficient as the workload grows. We are serving our Lord Jesus Christ everyday and consider it a privilege. What exactly do we do?

06-07 goals attained:

- Hired an Administrative Assistant for Adult and College ministry
- Hired an Administrative Assistant for the Worship Pastor and general office duties
- Purchased an air-fed folder machine
- Joined a church purchasing group to lower costs on supplies
- Cross-trained office staff
- ACS Team is continuing to maximize the ACS church management system to achieve ministry goals
- Job descriptions completed on all staff
- Maintained current maintenance contracts, facility insurance policies, and vehicle registration and driver files
- Continue to open up Grace Church to the community
- Served on the SLO Chamber's Parking Task Force
- Purchased a "cutter machine" for the office
- Leased a 2<sup>nd</sup> color copier
- Researched the legal requirements for the constitution and facilitated updating the By-laws

07-08 Goals:

- Computer training for staff
- Performance evaluation template completed for all staff
- Continued cross-training of admin staff
- Organization and clean up of computer files

The office staff is pleased to serve the members of Grace Church and be available as a resource for all kinds of church inquiries and information. Our goal is to support ministry in every way so Grace Church can radiate God's love and be a beacon light in the community. Over the past couple of years we have strived to organize the office including: action oriented minutes of all meetings, personnel files, financial files, policy & procedure manual, employee handbook, organization of all past church records, facility use policy and procedure, and attendance & giving statistics. This infrastructure is imperative for a large, growing church, and enables ministry the freedom to soar to new heights!! Praise God for His faithfulness to Grace Church!

Working at Grace Church for the past 3 ¾ years has been challenging, fun and very rewarding. The ministry staff and administrative staff are awesome to work with, and Tim is a great leader and encourager. I will miss the God-centered environment as I head to Cuesta College as the Director of Nursing and Allied Health. My duties have been delegated to Paula Richardson - Accountant, and Debbie Johnston - Business Administrator.

# Worship Ministry Report

## Al Streder, Worship Pastor

As I look back over the past year, the word that comes to mind is team. Whether it was the team that worked on the float for the SLO Holiday parade or the emerging Technical Team, the evolving Welcome Team or our ongoing music and worship groups, I was grateful to see people stepping up and taking leadership and initiative. Tom Forselles led the float team, and they were rewarded with the “Most Creative” trophy. The float may be a small thing in the grand scheme of ministry, but it is another way to connect with our community ... and it reflects our desire to do everything we do with excellence!

Vic and Peggy Robertson stepped up and assumed more responsibility with the Welcome Team. Joining Tom Forselles, who coordinates our ushers, Vic and Peggy are helping to increase the effectiveness of the greeters. These two groups have been combined this year to make up the Welcome Team, and we are working to better integrate the two groups and to expand the role of women in the Welcome ministry. Our goal is to “excel still more” in making Grace a warm and friendly environment for old and new, young and old.

The Technical Team is a relatively new addition to the organizational structure at Grace. The working mission statement is *To provide technology and support that is user-friendly, allowing people to effectively accomplish our mission of celebrating, proclaiming, and living out the gospel on the central coast and beyond.* The “Tech Team” includes everything from the computer systems and internet to sound, cameras, etc. – and the objective is to make these tools more accessible, effective and user-friendly for ministry. I work closely with our chair Josh Erdman and key people like Dan Matthias, Evan Chechopoulos and Andy Gibson to most effectively achieve our mission statement.

The Worship Board continues to evolve; each member leads and/or serves in a specific area but also works collectively to give ideas, feedback and support to one another. Current board members include: Bob & Terri Carr, Dennis Cementina, Tom Forselles, Noonie Fugler, Ron Johnston, elder; Solina Lindahl, Allen Massar, Dan Matthias, Davia & Pat Rusco, Al Streder and Grace Van Doren. In the coming year we plan to tackle the question of the arts and the Church: how Grace should view, embrace and encourage the arts – that the arts may be one more way to celebrate, proclaim and live out the gospel.

Beginning my 16th year of ministry at Grace, I look back with thanksgiving, as God has allowed our family to be a part of God’s ongoing work at Grace, and He has opened doors of opportunity for both Tanya and me in the arts community (e.g. the youth symphony and the County Symphony orchestra). As our children spread their wings (Paul working in Sunnyvale as an electrical engineer, Jordan as a fire fighter here on the Central Coast and Katie, the Cal Poly student) we look forward to new opportunities to serve the cause of Christ, ministering to the Grace Church family and living out the Gospel in the community.

Some of the musical highlights of the past year include:

- Another successful year of two children’s choirs, under the faithful direction of Solina Lindahl (*Joyful Noise*) and Grace Van Doren (*His Image*) – a cooperative effort between Children’s ministry and Worship.
- *A Joyous Celebration*, our Christmas program (Saturday, December 9) involved many singers and musicians, including the children’s choir, and was well-received.
- We enjoyed a good old-fashioned hymn sing on a Sunday afternoon in March
- Also in March Down Here, a contemporary Christian band, performed in concert.

Looking ahead...

Plan at least one workshop to develop skills, sharpen our focus and build the team.

***Soli Deo Gloria***

# Adult Ministry Report

## Steve Leonard, Adult Ministries Pastor

As I write this report I'm celebrating the joining of a club I have longed to be part of for a while. In May I joined the ranks of those among our congregation and staff who can measure their time at Grace in years instead of months! Pictures remind me how much our boys, David and Matthias have grown up in that time. Matthias has started talking and David has progressed from immobile to walking. Lisa and I delight we serve a church we love to attend and where we have been so readily adopted into the Grace family. We feel blessed in life and ministry.

### **Gospel Living in Growth Groups**

*Growth Groups* are small groups of 6-12 college students and adults who meet weekly for 10 weeks to study the Bible, pray and develop caring relationships with each other. Growth Groups are one of the best settings for adults of all ages to connect in authentic community and experience spiritual transformation at Grace. We are currently running 20 groups with over 200 people involved.

If you're new to Grace, Growth Groups are an excellent way connect and build friendships. A woman emailed me this year saying, *"The group opened up to someone new, welcomed me easily, included me and supported me and did not place judgment on how I felt about things, They gave input, suggestions and loving support."* I ran into a man going through a tough time who told me he didn't feel the need to meet because of the support of his Growth Group for him and his wife. This year we have seen people come to faith in Growth Groups and brand new believers begin to connect deeply with more experienced Christians through their groups.

Our goal this year is to see 70% of our congregation connected through Growth Groups. You might ask why we have such an ambitious number—especially in light of the busyness of life. First, because we see small groups modeled throughout Scripture. Practically speaking, the answer for me is reflected in comments I hear from people who say, *"This is what church is supposed to be like," "I can be vulnerable," "I never feel judged or ashamed to share anything,"* and *"We have the best group!"* My prayer is that everyone will experience this same thing in the year ahead.

### **Adults Fellowshiping Through Bible Teaching**

What are *Adult Bible Fellowships* anyway? Simply put they are mid-sized adult groups on Sunday morning that focus on fellowship and biblical learning and application. The Lord was pleased to raise up a new ABF this year for young Adults called 2:42, based on the principles found in Acts 2:42. They along with Heritage Builders, Harvesters, Living Stones and the Bereans have spent time in Bible book studies (such as Proverbs, Luke & Deuteronomy) and topical series like the Treasure Principle, The Cross of Christ and the Christian Family. We continue to meet quarterly We have continued the ABF Leadership Luncheons where we are discussing such issues as ABF Vision, Creating a Welcoming Environment and a shift toward Team Ministry. If you would like to serve our adults Sunday Morning, talk to Pastor Steve or any ABF leader.

### **Equipping through Seminars**

*Grace Seminars* are 4-8 week topical classes for adults to explore church history, specific theological topics, Christianity and culture and other practical topics. Grace Seminars are a complement to our Adult Bible Fellowships. This year we offered Seminars in *Growing Something Besides Old* (Sue Donaldson), *3 Christians Everyone Should Know* (Jim Jeffrey) and *the Way of the Master Evangelism Seminar* (Ted Malley). This next year we anticipate offering seminars in areas of Missions, Christianity and the Arts, other Christians we should know, Spiritual gifts and more on Evangelism.

# College Ministry Report

## Steve Leonard, Adult Ministries Pastor

Our College Ministry seeks to *celebrate, proclaim and live the Gospel of Jesus Christ among the college-aged community on the Central Coast and beyond*. We decided early on this year to focus on going deeper in our ministry having seen such rapid growth in 2005-2006. We have emphasized leadership development, discipleship through Growth Groups and Missional living this year as our main ministry priorities. The Lord has done some amazing things from raising up new leaders, to seeing students come to Christ, to renewing our vision of God, to making new and deeper friendships.

### College Life at Grace

College Sunday morning continues to be a focal point of our group's life consistently seeing 80-100 students attending. This Fall we handed out approximately 1,000 flyers during WOW week and saw 100 new students at the Fall Kick Off and subsequent meetings of Pizza in the Park. The Annual Hoedown at the Kokkonen's was a blast and allowed everyone to get know each other right at the beginning of the year. Then in November College Ministry teamed up with High School Ministry for our second annual Turkey Bowl prior to our Thanksgiving Dinner. Our second annual Winter Retreat at Shaver Lake was a significant time for 40 students to connect and grow as we looked deeply into Jesus' words about the cost of discipleship in Luke's gospel.

### How Do We Mentor College Students?

This year we saw 6 uniquely college-focused Growth Groups led by Adults Mentors and student leaders. On Sunday Morning we began the year with the Gospel with a series focused on the big picture of God's redemption of the world called "*God's Story, Our Story*." In the Winter we dove into a practical series on God's call on our lives as the Church and as individuals called "*Christian Vocation*" based on the commissioning passages of the Gospel accounts. This Spring the sun started shining and enough people showed up in my office with specific questions, so we launched into a series called "*Dating, Singleness and Sex*." Finally, our student leadership team embarked on a 4 day backpack trip at the end of summer for training and development and met weekly at 6:00 AM at students' houses for prayer, training and planning! We've read *Knowing God* and *the Making of a Leader* together to learn about the God we serve and how He develops leaders. I am deeply grateful to this team for their service.

### Where Do We Go From Here?

Beginning in June, graduating Cal Poly senior, Matt Esswein will come alongside me as our new College Ministry Assistant. Looking to the year ahead we have identified 5 (and a half!) Key Result Areas: We continue to recognize the strategic value of **Leadership Development** in a college town like SLO. We see our **Sunday Morning College Group** as a main focal point of our life together and will continue to grow in our emphasis on the Priority of God's Word, connecting relationally and worship. We will further develop our **College Grace Growth Groups** ministry. We will cultivate an **atmosphere of love** and community in our groups through quarterly events. Finally, we will work to **connect with older mentors** with college students through Growth Groups, Adopt-a-Student and new special events. That's five—where's the "half" you ask? We continue to believe God is calling Grace College ministry to Missions. We will partner with Missions Pastor Danny Martin to cast a vision for missions for students, providing practical missions opportunities, such as our upcoming China Trip in August.

Our school year program will progress from a focus in the Fall on Gathering/Outreach to community development in Winter Quarter to an emphasis on serving in the Spring. Summer affords the opportunity to mix things up as students return home (some departing and other s returning). Our plan for summer is to use the extended time for short-term missions opportunities, fun days as group and leadership development.

# Women's Ministry Report

## Debbi Weeks, Women's Ministry Director

*"... and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near."*  
Hebrews 10:24 & 25 – **Women's Ministries' Focus Verse**

*"In Women's Ministries, it is our desire to create places where women can grow in their relationships with Christ, one another and the lost. We do this by providing opportunities to study and apply God's Word, to serve and enjoy sweet fellowship as we open our hearts and encourage one another."* – **Women's Ministries' Mission Statement**

This has been a wonderful year in Women's Ministries at Grace. We have worked to fulfill our ministry statement as we have strived for excellence in each of our areas of ministry. We have endeavored to live out Hebrews 10:24 & 25 among our Grace Church family and in the local community.

Our **Women's Ministry Board** has worked diligently to provide a growing and quality ministry to the Women of Grace and our community. We are working together as a team to build and implement Women's ministries. We enjoyed a blessed retreat together in the fall where we got to know each other better, as well as planned and vision-cast our year. Women's Ministry Board leaders are: **Lindsey Cheney, Jen Collins, Kristi Garcia, Missy Grant, Cyndie Hamley, Suzanne Kelley, Jacquelyn Moses, Katie Nugent, Laurie Potratz** and **Marti Warde**. This year the WMB provided direction and set goals for ministry activities, planned themes for our Ladies' Salad Suppers, assessed our ministry needs, incorporated extended visits with the New Moms Meal ministry and established policies for wedding and baby showers for Grace Church women. Looking ahead to the next year we are excited about starting a ministry to moms of young children. The idea is to weekly meet in the park (and in the church during inclement weather) to encourage relationship building. This ministry will offer a non-threatening way for women to reach out to others in their same stage of life.

We've had four **Ladies' Salad Suppers** over the past year. These have been wonderful times of fellowship, offering a "first step" into women's ministry for women new at Grace. These potlucks offer a non-threatening, welcoming activity for women of all ages and stages. A highlight of our Ladies Salad Suppers has been the attendance of many of our high school and college gals. The interaction between the many generations at Grace is one of the biggest blessings of our Ladies' Salad Suppers. Along with our WMB, a wonderful small group of women have stepped up to help put the Ladies Salad Suppers together, they are: **Katie Ernstrom, Robbin Mote, Liesl O'Brien, Priscilla Rynning** and **Brenda Williams**. We're thankful for the involvement of these women in making our Ladies' Salad Suppers successful.

This school year the **Pearls of Wisdom (POW)** Thursday morning Bible Study used Beth Moore's *Living Beyond Yourself – Exploring the Fruit of the Spirit* study materials. POW continues to be coordinated by the gifted team of **Missy Grant** and **Ruth Latson**. Women who served as our small group leaders this year were: **Kimber Edwards, Sharon Ernstrom, Tiffanie Ferrel, Cyndie Hamley, Marti Hubbard, Kathy Keil, Ruth Latson, Linda Matthias, Laurie Potratz** and **Karen Weaver**. These women cared for and ministered faithfully to the women in their group. Our own lecturers supplemented Beth Moore's teaching. We were blessed to have these women share their gift of teaching with us: **Sue Donaldson, Missy Grant, Cyndie Hamley, Laurie Potratz, Kari Mattina, Katie Nugent** and **Liz Young**. We're looking forward to another exciting time of digging deep into God's Word together as we study using Beth Moore's resources on the book of *Daniel* in the coming school year.

What a blessing to have **Ceslie Patty** coordinate our fabulous **Pre-School Program** this year. This was the first time we have had a consistent presence in the classroom each week and a real pre-school curriculum for the children. We're so thankful that **Ceslie** has agreed to serve in this position again next year.

**Suzanne Kelley** has continued to faithfully serve as our **Freed-up Bible Study** leader on Tuesday evenings. After finishing Kay Arthur's study on Philippians they have now begun Beth Moore's *Living Beyond Yourself* study as well. This smaller group enjoys the intimate setting and **Suzanne's** warm hospitality.

Our **Healing Hearts** post-abortive ministry under the direction of **Suzette Lyons** continues to be available to all women seeking forgiveness and healing from abortion. This ministry is a joint collaboration between Grace and Healing Hearts International. This partnership offers the resources of Healing Hearts with the personal, local ministry of meeting with **Suzette**.

The first weekend in May we held another successful annual **Women's Conference** with Pamela Christian as our speaker. **Cyndie Hamley** and her conference team did a wonderful job of providing a conference that challenged and encouraged the 126 women in attendance. Seven local churches were represented. The fellowship with Christian sisters was sweet. Evaluations and feedback of the conference were overwhelmingly positive. One woman had this to say, "It's so nice to have an in-house conference with excellent food and teaching and incredible fellowship, all for \$25!"

One of the greatest joys in every area of Women's Ministry is serving together. The teams enjoy such sweet camaraderie working together towards a common goal; friendships are made and women minister to one another as sisters in Christ. As one can see from this past year's activities, it's evident there's a place for every woman to be served and to serve – **come join the team!**

# Youth Ministry Report

## Ken Peet, Youth Ministry Pastor

*“For God did not give us a spirit of timidity,  
but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline.”  
II Timothy 1:7*

The focus of our ministry is people, not programs--to build relationships of love, grace and integrity with God, each other and every person God brings across our paths. Our goal is to connect students with the One who brings peace and joy. Our motivation is to give God glory!!

Our theme this last year has been “SOLO CHRISTO”. We introduced this theme at our Mexico Mission trip, noting that Christ alone is the center of the Gospel. Our key verses have been Colossians 1:15-20. We have been purposing to live this out as we “CPR the Gospel”—Celebrate, Proclaim, and Respond to the Gospel.

My lovely wife, Judi, has continued to be a blessing to me and to God’s ministry to our youth. And what a blessing to have both our kids in fruitful ministry. Jennifer is on staff with Campus Crusade for Christ on the UC Santa Barbara campus. And Jeremy and his wife Elizabeth are on full time staff with Hume Lake Christian Camps.

This last year we added to our staff Ben Collins as our Junior High Director. Ben graduated from SLO High in 2005 and is attending Cal Poly. He was a key part of our student staff while in high school and served on our junior high staff as soon as he graduated. Ben has been a sweet addition to our ministry staff team here at Grace. He has done a great job this past school year in leading our junior high staff and students. And we look forward to him continuing in this role this next year.

Our Youth Board members are: Craig Hughes, Mike and Kathy Ward, Dan and Robbin Mote, Jay and Connie Walter, Kevin and Janet Hooper, Greg and Erika Sabosky, and Jim and Kathy Smith. They have been actively serving our parents and families this last year by organizing some incredible “Bunco Wars” involving both students and parents. They are also acting as a screening committee for our new Youth Pastor search.

We currently have 16 volunteer adult staff working with our junior high students and 27 adult staff working with our high school students. We currently have 198 students on our active role (67 junior high; 131 high school), and over 400 others recorded as visiting at least once last year.

Looking back over the last year, we have seen God continue to bear much fruit:

- We have 22 seniors who will be graduating this June.
- We met together with other churches in the area for “See You at the Pole”, “See You at Terrace Hill”, “See You at the Park”, and “See You at the Beach”.
- Our outreach events, such as our summer and winter camps, progressive dinners, Fifth Quarters, downtown people puzzle, etc. have born much fruit as young people have come to know Jesus as their Savior.
- Many students are involved in “GO DEEP” groups meeting at various times throughout the week, before school, at lunch or in the evening keeping each other accountable and studying the Word together.
- We continue to integrate our students into the life of the church.
- Many of our students have been baptized over this past year.

Both our high school and junior high students have recently been studying independently First Peter. We have also looked at God’s gift of relationships and how to honor Him in them. Our junior high students have also studied the books of John, Philippians, Colossians, and the Beatitudes. In our high school group we have also studied First John and looked at many “ordinary issues” and “sticky issues” this past year.

Looking ahead, I am excited to see what God has in store this summer and the following year!!

- About 100 of us are preparing to build homes for needy families and share the Gospel in Mexico June 18-24.
- In July we will again be taking over 200 to Hume Lake Christian Camp.
- Fall Forward Camp in August will be at Camp Hammer again this year. This camp unifies our youth group and gets us ready for the new school year.
- We are also continuing our search for a Youth Pastor

### **Got Staff?**

What about you? Join us this summer! We are looking for “a few good” parents, college students, loving servants to join us short-term serving our youth this summer. If you are willing to serve our youth and want the blessing of seeing God working in exciting ways join us this summer!! Give Pastor Ken a call!!

# **Jr. High Director's Report**

## **Ben Collins, Jr. High Ministry Director**

As I reflect on this year of ministry in the Junior High group I can only smile and shake my head. I smile because of the Truth, and how it has so saturated and so impacted the Junior High group at all levels, students and teachers alike. I shake my head because of the mystery of how the Lord has accomplished so much in the Junior High this year through an entirely incapable science nut like me. Aha, clearly the answer is through the awesome Junior High Staff that have been so very committed to the work of the gospel this year.

Our staff for our Sunday morning teaching time includes Erik Ernstrom, Jenny Ernstrom, Heather Johansen, Jaclyn Lude, Josh Ernstrom, Ashley Ernstrom, Justin Hooper, Eric Garner, Lara Nichols and Megan Boragine. Our students have been diving into deep and awesome studies in John and Philippians, tackling difficult questions of faith and truth through awesome books like *Case for a Creator* by Lee Strobel and have been challenged by the Beatitudes from Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. Our worship in song for our Sunday Mornings has been graciously provided by Justin Hooper, who has done an absolutely stellar job. I have been blessed by reports from the staff who are encouraged by the growth their kids have shown. Relationships are being built and strengthened. I praise the Lord for the staff who have prepared for their studies weekly and have been in prayer for their kids consistently.

We have come to call our Wednesday Night ministry "B There" this year and our focus has been on our theme *Solo Cristo*. We have had some awesome additions to our Wednesday Night staff this year creating a crew of leaders who have committed themselves to using the strength that the Lord alone can provide, to serve, love and teach the kids in order to bring our great and magnificent God glory. Those on our Wednesday Night staff include Josh Ernstrom, Ashley Ernstrom, Sharon Cumberland, David Dyk, Justin Hooper, Eric Garner, Kjersti Anderson, Jaclyn Lude and Hallie Helbert.

We have a lot of fun on Wednesdays playing crazy games like Gazebo Dodge Ball, Shuffle Buns and Ultimate Frisbee. Our focus, however, as a united staff is definitely on the kids' spiritual maturity. My desire and conviction led me to take a few months to try to unravel the character of God by looking at around 16 of His incredible attributes. I felt it essential that the kids would have an understanding of this God that they have heard about; desiring to take them beyond a simple knowledge that God exists, in order that their relationship with Him would deepen as they draw nearer and nearer to Him.

After much prayer and investigation the Lord landed me in 1<sup>st</sup> Peter, where we have and will continue to be through the end of this year. For 1<sup>st</sup> Peter we have gone to incorporating small discussion groups, where kids are challenged by questions from the text to express their ideas and thoughts about the meaning embedded within the text. These have proven to be very valuable, and kids actually look forward to this time of the night! Reports from staff flood my ears telling of the great discussions and intimate atmospheres that they have so enjoyed. Our Wednesdays have also been effective in welcoming in first time kids into our youth group, as we consistently have visitors who have on many occasions become regulars on Wednesdays!

I look forward to this next year eager for more glory to be given to our Lord and more grace to be poured out upon the students who come and are involved in the Junior High group at Grace.

# **Children's Ministry Report**

## **Dori Iunker, Children's Ministry Director**

This year has been a tremendous year of growth, both in sheer numbers and in the depth of our teaching. The Children's Ministry is now serving 335 children! We have had 10 babies born or adopted into our church family and 13 dedicated to the Lord this past year. Our continued aim in Sunday School is to impart to children a vision of God, who He is, and who we are in relation to Him, and to establish them with a foundation of doctrine and truth. We want them Biblically grounded, seeing God as the hero of every story, with a God-centered world view and a faith that will hold them when the days of testing come. We want them to love the Lord their God with all their heart and to delight in Him forever.

Jeannett Gibson has served as our Nursery Director during this baby boom year. She will give birth to her first child in July. Jan Oliver will cover during her maternity leave. Both of these women have been a huge blessing to me and to all of the little ones in our church family!

We also wrapped up our second year with the Children's Choirs (Joyful Noise and His Image). Solina Lindahl and Grace Van Doren did an amazing job of teaching our 1<sup>st</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> graders how to give worth back to God through song and how to humbly lead the body of believers in the praise and worship of our Lord!

We held two camps for 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> graders this year (Junior Day Camp and Mount Hermon). Between the two camps we had over 80 kids participate and 25 accepted Christ as their Lord and Savior! It was such a blessing to rejoice with the angels!

Mike Borland was our Awana Commander this year and what an amazing job he did! We had 124 kids participate in Awana! Our Awana club competed in the Awana Games and in the Awana Bible Quiz with a Quiz Master award and a first place team finish! Mike will be passing the Commander baton on to our next high energy guy, Mr. Erik Ernstrom! Erik has been at Grace for 36 years. He has served with Awana for three years and with the Junior High ministry for 18 years! We not only welcome Erik as the new Awana Commander but also his lovely wife of 11 years, Jenny! Erik also mentioned he has a key to Pastor Ken's office if anyone needs a Dr. Pepper.

Our Children's Ministry Board has served faithfully beside me as we try to establish a true "working board". I want to thank these faithful servants Bonnie Johnson, Ceslie Patty, John & Kara Dostal, Gwynne Moore, Colette Joyce, Sandra Ronda, and Rick Ernstrom. Lorraine Maksoudian will be joining us soon!

Looking forward to our year ahead, you don't want to miss this summer or fall! We will continue to bring you Jr. Day Camp (Aug. 6-10), Harvest Festival, and the Family Camp-out (Sept. 7-9). In addition, we will try something radically different and crazy fun!!! Be sure to join us for this year's Grace Summer Nights! Starting with our annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July picnic and then following with four consecutive Wednesday nights, we will come together as a church family for dinner, worship, beach games, teaching times, talent shows and all kinds of fun! Watch for sign ups beginning in June and make sure your family does not miss out!

Speaking of family, I have been married to my wonderful husband Larry for 23 years. We have been blessed with three children. Lance is 19 years old and is currently serving both the Lord and the U.S. Army 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne in Baghdad, Iraq. Lindsey is 17 and is graduating from high school. She hopes to serve the Lord in orphanages in Africa and become a neonatal nurse. Luke is 12 and will soon enter the exciting world of Junior High!

Our children's ministry newsletter called "Children of Grace" is mailed quarterly. It is filled with important dates and helpful parenting tips. Let me know if you are not receiving a copy and would like one! It is an honor and a blessing to assist parents in their responsibility for bringing up their children in the discipline and instruction of the Lord. Please contact me if you have questions or if you feel the Lord leading you to get involved in this exciting ministry! You will truly be blessed!