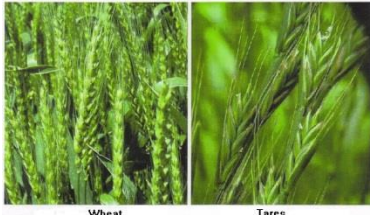


Wheat and Tares (Pats Pondering from the Pews)



Wow! The weeds are growing along with the beautiful green, green grass of this summer. It is refreshing to see green lawns after so many years of drought in the Ukiah Valley. New growth can often be discerned on plant life by the shades of green on its branches. New growth seems to be a lighter shade while the more mature a darker hue of green. Then there are the weeds that keep sprouting up among the desired plants, they too are often green in color and when growing among the wheat appear to be wheat but in fact are not. They are called bearded darnels or tares.

Physical growth too can be apparent, especially in small children as they sprout up so quickly during the summer months. Some of the more mature among us seem to spread our wings more broadly than they would wish, while the very frail or elderly appear to shrink in girth.

Spiritual growth is another matter. Sometimes you can see the growth in a persons life and with others, not so much, while many there appears to be no growth visible or discerned.

In the more orthodox churches we see the color green on altars and pulpits, pastors and priests shawls as well as well designed banners and standards. We see this color about 6 to 8 months of the year, especially after Pentecost which is commonly called the 'time of the church' The church was growing in biblical times and the people were beginning to grow in their spiritual life as well. Many congregations continue to this day to use the color green to signify growth.



How did you grow in your spiritual life this summer? Poured over the Word of God as recorded in scripture? Read a Christian book? Meditated on an aspect of nature as you walked or strolled about town? Contemplated the miracles of new life in a birth process of animal or person? Shared your faith with a non-believer or someone who is on shaky ground? Listened to the sounds of life that surrounded your daily faith walk? Responded to a need of another's plea for help?

It is so important to grow your faith even if in small increments so the tares (weeds, evil) do not choke your faith out. Part of our mission statement at Grace is to GROW IN FAITH!

Food Donations totaled little over 150 lbs that was taken to the Ukiah food bank at the beginning of summer. The end of July we donated 50 lbs of food . Grace abounds at Grace, thanks to all!

Fresh produce is being brought to church to share with members by our backyard farmers. This is much appreciated.



Celebrating new life this summer were:

Kathy & Rick Allan with birth of first granddaughter, Hazell Grace Camp on 6/24/16. Proud parents, Clair & Andrew said she weighed in at 8lb 9 oz and was 21 inches long.

Also celebrating birth of first great grandchild of Pat Boesel on 6/24/16 is Weston Gunner Boesel. Proud parents Kasadee & Colton report he weighed in at 6 lb 14 oz and was 18 ½ inches long

The third celebration was for Bear & Holly Connormon as they welcomed first granddaughter, Scarlett Marie Mize on July 19. Scarlett weighed 5 lb 13 oz. Mom Jennifer & dad Mize are doing fine too.

OUTBOUND

Many thanks go to Gwen Rasmussen for volunteering her time and talent in securing an Action Seed Money grant from Thrivent and assisting with the shopping for Nor Cal Christian Ministries Day Shelter Supplies as well as to Toni Fort. Also thanks go to the many who donated their love offering that augmented this modest grant. Supplies were delivered and the look of surprise of the faces and guests were amazing. Our love in action!



I have submitted a grant proposal on behalf of Nor Cal Christian Ministries. Please keep this in your prayers that the Lord will bless this ministry through this grant.

Manzanita (a client based mental health organization) is also looking for donations of personal hygiene items to gift their clients. There is a basket on the east table in fellowship hall for them or give your donation to Carol Mordhorst.



Faith Girlz resumes once again on the 2nd Friday of Sept at 5:30pm with a light dinner, fellowship and faith sharing. Please contact Shelia Prax if you know of a young girl who would benefit from this fellowship time.

Fair thee well to Pr Martha & Paul



We said our fond good byes on July 24th to Interim Pastor Martha and hubby Paul with a BBQ luncheon hosted by the church council. Martha reports that they will travel back to their home state of Arizona to wait for God's call with a two month layover in Barstow, Ca to stay with son John.

YOUR COUNCIL AT WORK

Council did not meet in July as they lacked a quorum. In June they decided not to release the minutes in print for at least a month meaning that Gracelines will not be able to publish council's decisions on behalf of the church in a timely manner.

Call Team reports that they have a candidate to present to the congregation for vote. A congregational meeting was held on Jul 31 after the 2nd service. Congregation had a majority yes vote to call the candidate. The pastor candidate has 30 days to respond one way or other. We will keep you posted!

The Candidate, **Kristin J. Gallimore**, accepted call, and will be here September 6 with her first Sunday to preach being Sept 11. Installation details to follow.

Joint VBS

Grace's VBS teamed up with First Presbyterian in early August and had a very successful week with excited children and very tired volunteers. Those volunteering from GLC were Gwen R, Lynn E, Steve & Cindy J, Carol M, Katelyn R, Amber S, Jeanne Y, and Janet C.

Many kudo's to all who donated craft and teaching tools for the kids. It is appreciated.



Love in Action
abounds at Grace!!!!

One of the young
guests at the
homeless shelter.

This youngster is one who you helped with your love offering and Thrivent Action Seed grant.