

PARTNERS

in Grace


Jansen (NE) Bible Church

April 25-27

Get to the airport. Park. Check in. Fly to Kansas City. Rent a car. Drive 200 miles through Missouri, Kansas, and Nebraska. Speak Friday night, Saturday night, and twice on Sunday morning. Drive back across three states. Fly back to DFW. Drive home. That was my to-do list for this weekend.

Pastor Paul Carpenter and I had a great discussion over lunch on Saturday. I received many good insights from our conversation about Lordship Salvation. Paul has been involved in a published dialogue with another pastor over repentance and regeneration.

I was at Jansen Bible to be their Spring Bible Conference speaker and spoke on clarity in evangelism. I gave three messages on Friday and Saturday nights: "Keep It Simple: Tell Them to Believe," "The Call to Discipleship Is Not Evangelistic," and "Gospel Appeals and Invitations to Avoid." My Sunday school message was entitled, "Focus on Eternal Life." Then in the morning service I spoke on "A Closer Look at The Roman's Road." Afterwards we had a great "carry in" lunch. (I thought Paul said carrion lunch!)

I've been to this church a number of times and, as always, I left encouraged and edified. 



Pastor Paul Carpenter with family and friends after service

Bayside Community Church Tampa, Florida

May 11

Sharon doesn't get the opportunity to travel with me on speaking engagements often. But she frequently finds a way to go with me to Florida.

Margaret Riedel is a wonderful hostess and has a beautiful home right on Tampa Bay. We always enjoy the opportunity to visit with her.

She's eighty years old (forgive me, Margaret), but you'd never know it. She looks sixty and has more energy and enthusiasm than most thirty-year-olds.

The third and fourth warning passages in Hebrews (5:12-6:8 and 10:19-31) were the subject of my two messages on Sunday morning. My messages were entitled: "Blessing or Cursing: What Do You Want?" and "Hold On or Watch Out."

Highlights

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Sharon visiting with Margaret Riedel

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June 2003



Sunday morning at Jansen Bible Church



Before the service at Jansen Bible




Potluck dinner at JBC

Help Us End the Year Well

Our fiscal year ends June 30th. After a bit of a downturn in May, we are about \$18,000 under budget with one month to go.

While we realize we are likely to end the year with less revenue than anticipated, we'd really like to come as close as we can. Our annual revenue for the current year is the number one factor we use in setting the budget for the next year. So it is important to end the year as well as possible.

I realize many of you are already giving as much as you can to this ministry. We really appreciate your support. However, if some of you are able to give a larger gift than normal this month, it would be very timely and much appreciated. 


Spotlight on Your Support

Elders shepherd the flock of God in local churches. This includes the teaching elders or pastors. Where do these men get their training?

There are three stages of training in the life of an elder: training in the home growing up, formal and informal training prior to becoming an elder, and formal and informal training after becoming an elder.

Because of you, GES is able to aid in the training of elders and future elders at all three stages. We help parents and churches train their children. We help churches and schools train future church leaders. And we help churches and schools train their current leaders.

Many men who are now pastors and elders went to Bible Colleges and Seminaries that were not clear on Free Grace issues. GES is able to help them reevaluate, and in some cases unlearn, things they learned wrongly in the past. We are also able to help those who are currently in college or seminary know the issues and be able to stand firm on the grace of God.

We help churches develop and maintain solid leaders. Your partnership makes this possible. Thanks so much. The church is the bride of our Lord Jesus. By helping us help her you are storing up a wonderful legacy for the life to come. 

Grace on the Go

- June 1 Grace Church, Orange, CA
- June 8 Brenham (TX) Bible Church
- June 29 Bayside Community Church, Tampa, FL
- July 6 McKinney (TX) Baptist Church
- July 7 GES Summer Board Meeting (this may change to the 14th), Irving, TX
- July 13 Ridgepoint Fellowship, Dallas, TX
- July 20 Simi Valley (CA) Evangelical Free Ch.
- July 27 Bethany Church (Sunday school only), Long Beach, CA



Bayside Community

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I was very encouraged by the comments afterwards. A dozen or so people told me how clear and encouraging they found the messages. And this on two of the most difficult and frightful warning passages in the Bible. **RG**

The Grace Conference Dates and Speakers

February 23-26, 2004

Due to a scheduling conflict with the Harvey Hotel, we've moved the conference to the last week in February next year. It will run from Monday February 23 through Thursday February 26. We hope y'all will be able to come and bring friends.

Our speakers now include Zane Hodges, Earl Radmacher, Ron Allen (DTS), John Hart (Moody), and me. We are encouraged. **RG**



Visit the new Grace Conference website @
<http://www.faitbalone.org/conference/2004>

New Publications Started

Recently I began work on a new book on assurance. There are also several other books that we are considering publishing in the near future.

In addition, I just completed a first draft of a commentary on First Thessalonians, and I'm working on the first draft of Second Thessalonians. Cathy and Grant are tough taskmasters.

I'd appreciate your prayers for my writing. As I'm also trying to read more theological books now (I've been reading several each week lately), and I have lots of responsibilities with the newsletters, journal, and several speaking engagements each month. It makes keeping up a regular schedule for writing books challenging. **RG**



Bob and Sharon visiting with the Krusen family of BCC



Sunday morning at Bayside Community Church



Sharon with George and Tina Tripp

Notes & Letters

Fresh Air!

I recently received a subscription to the newsletter [*Grace in Focus*], as well as a letter from Bob after ordering *Absolutely Free!* and *Confident in Christ*. The letter and subscription were most welcome, and please allow me to say that your website and publications are the first true breath of “fresh air” that I have encountered in over thirty years of being a Christian.

A.G. ~ Cary, NC

Press on!

Standing with you guys. Press on!

W.L. ~ Roseville, CA

Attack on Calvinism

...It appears that your publication [*Journal of the Grace Evangelical Society*] is a platform to attack Calvinism of which, as the great Spurgeon said, is simply “Shorthand for the gospel” and it seems that your eschatology is

Dispensational, another grave error. Additionally, the studies on Augustine come off to us as pseudo-scholarship; very akin to Dave Hunt in his most horrible book that attacked the Gospel.

J.B. ~ Long Island, NY

Rare Commodity

The pure message of GRACE is truly a rare commodity these days.

W.P. ~ Central City, KY

Slippery Slopes

Thank you for your web site. I believe in faith alone for salvation! For years I have been led down the slippery slopes of

“lordship” salvation. But free grace has given me a solid foundation.

J.H. ~ Dunedin, FL



Between services at Bayside Community Church

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Financial Report

May Revenue	\$20,422
May Budget	\$29,826
Fiscal YTD Revenue	\$309,423
Fiscal YTD Budget	\$328,086

