



Welcome

FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD

*He Gave*

HIS ONE & ONLY SON.

JOHN 3:16



“...WHEN JESUS SAW THE MULTITUDE, HE WAS  
MOVED WITH COMPASSION...” Matthew 9:36

# Grace Brethren Church Of Norwalk

December 4, 2011

## WELCOME!

We are glad you are here today. We hope you enjoy worshipping with us this morning and you have a blessed day! Pastor Jeff Patton

## Today at Grace —

### Sunday School Classes Today: 9:30am

**Class:** 3-5 years of age

**Teacher:** Caroll Perkins

**Room:** KB

**Class:** 1st Grade thru 6th Grade

**Teacher:** Robin Predmore

**Room:** 1B

**Class:** DRIVEN (Junior High & High School)

**Teacher:** Timothy Lansing

**Study:** Old Testament - Encounters with God

**Room:** Youth Garage

**Class:** Young Adults / Career

**Teacher:** Dave Goodwyn

**Study:** Building Christian Character

**Room:** 6A

**Class:** Adults

**Teacher:** Pastor Jeff Patton

**Study:** Living by the Book

**Room:** 6B

**Class:** Adults

**Teacher:** Ron Muir

**Study:** Growing in Christ

**Room:** Conference Room

### Grace Worship Service: 10:45am

### Kids in Action: 11:00am

**Movers and Shakers** – Birth to 2 years old in the Nursery

**Settin' the Stage** – 3 years to Kindergarten

**Center Stage** – 1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

### Evening Prayer Service: 6:00pm

“...WHEN JESUS SAW THE MULTITUDE, HE WAS  
MOVED WITH COMPASSION...” Matthew 9:36

## Upcoming Events —

### This Week:

Children’s Choir (Kidmo rm.)	9:00am, TODAY
Secret Sister Revealing Luncheon	12:30pm, TODAY
Worship Commission Meeting	5:00pm, TODAY
Family Night Services	
DRIVEN, ROCK & ABS	6:30pm, Wednesday
Worship Team Practice	8:00pm, Wednesday
No CEF Bible Club this week due to parent/teacher conferences	
Children’s Choir Practice & Costumes	11:00am, Saturday (Kidmo)

## For those Serving —

### Ushers for the Month of December

Tim Lansing, Victor Pearce, Eddie Morales, Glenn Wilson

### Nursery – Today 12/4

<b>9:30 am</b>	Kristina Wilson Lisa Barragan
<b>10:45 am</b>	Dee Muir Susan Klements

### Nursery –Next Week 12/11

<b>9:30 am</b>	Kristina Wilson Lisa Barragan
<b>10:45 am</b>	Laura Kimsey Jean Heye

## For the Record —

### 11/27/11 Giving:

Weekly Budget:	\$2,594.00	Offering Last Week:	\$1,769.15
S.S./CE Commission:	\$12.66	Grand Total/All Offering:	<b>\$1,894.81</b>
WE CARE – Gift cards	\$0.00	Total WE Card cards	<b>\$606.00</b>
		Need = \$129 more to make	
<b>\$735.00</b>			
Patton’s – Monthly Need:	\$170.00	Received this month:	\$173.00
O’Dell’s – Monthly Need:	\$170.00	Received this month:	\$213.00
Morris – Monthly Need:	\$170.00	Received this month:	\$188.00

# Church Family Announcements

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**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

Mark Miller

December 5



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**READ THROUGH THE BIBLE IN  
TWO YEARS**

December 4-10:

Luke 18-24

Nahum 2 - Zephaniah 2

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## Important Upcoming Events

- Dec. 11 9:30am Sunday School – Christmas Ornament Craft  
**6:00pm Congregational Business Year End Meeting**
- Dec. 13 6:30pm Women of Grace – Christmas at Sizzler  
7:00pm Elder Board Meeting & Ladies' Discipleship
- Dec. 17 8:00am WORK DAY & DRIVEN WORK DAY
- Dec. 18 10:45am Children's Choir Christmas Program  
7:00pm WE CARE – Christmas Caroling
- Dec. 25 10:45am Christmas Cantata
- Dec. 31 5:00pm COMMUNION
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## CHILDREN'S CHOIR UPDATE

To all parents of Children's Choir, please mark your calendars  
for our **upcoming Saturday practices:**

**December 10 & 17 from 11:00am to 1:00pm.**

We will start in the Kidmo room and then move to the  
Sanctuary. Please drop off and pick up your  
children on time. Thank you.

## **A SPECIAL THANK YOU FROM LEFLOSS**

Great news! We received a Thanksgiving card from one of our neighbors on LeFloss Ave and they thanked us for the gift card; the card came from the Pons Family. What a blessing!

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## **LADIES' MINISTRIES**

*Secret Sisters revealed today,  
Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup> at our luncheon -  
12:30pm in the Sunday School room.  
Please bring your \$6.00 for the lunch and  
come find out who your secret sister is!*

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## **Join us for December's WE CARE –**

Christmas Caroling to our neighbors on LeFloss Ave.  
Sunday evening, Dec. 18, 2011, from 7:00-9:00pm.

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### **Sunday School Option:**

**Come make a Christmas ornament craft  
for WE CARE during Sunday School on  
December 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am.**

If you are interested in making this craft, please mark  
your tear-off tab. Thank you.

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# IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN... TIME TO BEGIN PLANNING OUR 2012 CHURCH DIRECTORY AND HOPEFULLY WITH PICTURES!

Please fill out one form for each family, even if you did one last year. Please print clearly. Thank you. Please put in offering bag or church office.

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Spouse** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Children** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Birthdays:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Anniversary:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Home Address:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Phone numbers:**

**Home:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Cell numbers:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Email addresses:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# *“O Little Town of Bethlehem”*

## The Back-Story

*“And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem.” Luke 2:4*

***“O little town of Bethlehem how still we see thee lie! Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by; yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light- the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.”***

One of America's most outstanding preachers, Phillips Brooks, wrote this beloved Christmas song. In his day he was called the “Prince of the Pulpit.” He was deeply beloved and cherished by his congregations as few clergymen have ever been. Phillips was born in Boston in 1835. He graduated from Harvard and then seminary in Virginia in 1859. He had a long and distinguished career in the ministry. He pastored at Trinity Church in Boston from 1869-91. He was head of all Episcopal churches in Massachusetts during the years of intense battles with the false Unitarian Church, which eventually conquered his beloved Harvard University in Boston. Phillips was literally a giant of a man at 6'6", and yet this impressive, gifted bachelor was dearly loved by all, especially by the children in his church, for whom he wrote “O Little Town of Bethlehem.” It was a common sight to see this mighty preacher sitting on the floor in his study talking to and teaching youngsters. Brooks wrote “O Little Town of Bethlehem” in 1868 on the heels of the great Civil War. Three years before, he had visited the Holy Land and the experience powerfully influenced him for the rest of his life, especially celebrating Christmas Eve in the town of Bethlehem at the Church of the Nativity. His visit to Israel inspired him to write this carol for the children's Sunday School Christmas program. Brooks gave a copy of his carol to his organist and Sunday School director, Lewis Redner, and asked him to compose a simple melody that children could easily sing. Redner struggled for considerable time to come up with the music for the carol. In fact, the night before the Christmas program, he still had not composed the music! That very night he awoke out of a deep sleep and quickly composed what he later called “the tune that was a gift from heaven.” All the children immediately loved it and it has been a favorite Christmas carol ever since! Phillips Brooks died unexpectedly in 1893 at the age of 58. A five year old girl at his church was upset because she hadn't seen her preacher friend for several days. When her mother told her that Pastor Brooks had gone to heaven, the girl exclaimed, “Oh, Mama, how happy the angels will be.”

Adapted and Revised from “101 Hymn Stories” by Kenneth W. Osbeck,  
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