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

Grace Brethren Church Of Norwalk

December 11, 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 – 1st to 5th Grade

Evening Prayer Service: 6:00pm

"...WHEN JESUS SAW THE MULTITUDE, HE WAS
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Upcoming Events —

This Week:

Children's Choir (Kidmo rm.)	9:00am, TODAY
S.S. Craft for WE CARE	9:30am, TODAY
Deacon Board Meeting	5:00pm, TODAY
Women of Grace Christmas	6:30pm, Tuesday
Elder Board Meeting	7:00pm, Tuesday
Ladies' Discipleship (Patton home)	7:00pm, Tuesday
Family Night Services	
DRIVEN – Christmas Party	6:30pm, Wednesday
ROCK & ABS	
Worship Team Practice	8:00pm, Wednesday
CEF Bible Club	2:45pm, Thursday
WORK DAY & DRIVEN WORK DAY	8:00am, Saturday
Children's Choir Practice & Party (Kidmo)	11:00am, Saturday

For those Serving —

Ushers for the Month of December

Tim Lansing, Victor Pearce, Eddie Morales, Glenn Wilson

Nursery – Today 12/11	Nursery – Next Week 12/18
9:30 am Kristina Wilson Lisa Barragan	9:30 am Kristina Wilson Lisa Barragan
10:45 am Laura Kimsey Jean Heye	10:45 am Pat Ward Christy Randolph

For the Record —

12/4/11 Giving:

Weekly Budget:	\$2,594.00	Offering Last Week:	\$2,273.51
S.S./CE Commission:	\$21.00	Grand Total/All Offering:	\$2,575.51
WE CARE – Gift cards	\$25.00	Total WE Card cards	\$631.00
Patton's – Monthly Need:	\$170.00	Received this month:	\$22.00
O'Dell's – Monthly Need:	\$170.00	Received this month:	\$2.00
Morris – Monthly Need:	\$170.00	Received this month:	\$2.00

Church Family Announcements

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Don Lansing December 11
Robert Zamarripa December 11
Don Klements December 12
Marcus Lankford December 13
Jasmine Lankford December 14
Corazon Medina December 17



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Don & Phyllis Fisher December 11



READ THROUGH THE BIBLE IN TWO YEARS

December 11-17:

John 1-7

Zephaniah 3-Zechariah 4

Important Upcoming Events

The Congregational Business Year End Meeting has been postponed until Sunday, January 8, 2012 at 6:00pm

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



CHILDREN'S CHOIR UPDATE

To all parents of Children's Choir, please bring your children for their Christmas party and practice this

Saturday at 11:00am to 1:00pm in the Kidmo room.

All children must be present to sing on Sunday, the 18th.

Thank you.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU FROM LEFLOSS

Great news! Just in case you didn't hear last week, 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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WOMEN OF GRACE NEWS

Join us for our Christmas Party at Sizzler in Norwalk this Tuesday evening at 6:30pm. Please bring your wrapped candies and white elephant gift.

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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.

**Sunday School Option TODAY:
Come make a Christmas ornament craft
for WE CARE at 9:30am
Room: 6A
See you there!**

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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:

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

The Back-Story

“And suddenly there appeared with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace among men with whom He is pleased.” Then the angels went away from there back to heaven.” **Luke 2:13-14**

Every Christian today owes an unpayable debt to brothers Charles and John Wesley of England, two of the greatest Christian leaders who have ever walked this earth. Also, a debt of gratitude is owed to their mother Susannah who dedicated her life to God by raising her children to wholly love the Lord Jesus Christ. “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” is just one of more than 6,500 hymns that Charles Wesley (1707-1788) wrote! This beloved Christmas carol was written less than one year after Charles came to saving faith in Jesus Christ in 1738, and is considered to be one of his two greatest ever written along with “*Jesus, Lover of My Soul*.” Hymn experts list “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing!” as one of the four most popular hymns in the English language ever written. The carol first appeared in 1739, but was altered in 1753 by the great English preacher George Whitefield to the form we recognize today. Originally the carol consisted of ten four-line stanzas. Wesley wanted all his hymns to be a condensed course in biblical doctrine in poetic form. “Hark!” re-tells the angelic visit to the shepherds in the first stanza, and the following verses teach the virgin birth, Christ’s deity, the immortality of the soul, the new birth of salvation, and Christ-like living. The great composer Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847), who was a Jewish Christian, composed the tune that is used for “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing!” The tune for the carol was taken from Mendelssohn’s piece “*Festgesang, Opus 68*,” by English composer William Cummings in 1857. Mendelssohn lived a short life (only 38 years) but was a boy prodigy, making his first public appearance as a pianist at age 9! He was a prolific composer, conductor, and performer, writing chamber music, concertos, and symphonies for organ, piano, and vocals. His most famous piece is a heart-stopping, scintillating piece called “*The Elijah*” which chronicles the life and ministry of the prophet Elijah in symphony, choir, and vocals (which Pastor has if anyone wants to borrow it!). Actually the tune that was later taken for “Hark!” was originally written by Mendelssohn to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the invention of printing. It is an amazing act of God’s providence that we have this beloved hymn, for in 1627 the English Puritan parliament abolished the celebration of Christmas and all other “worldly festivals.” During the remainder of the 1600s and into the 1700s, there was a scarcity of carol hymns in England. Charles Wesley’s “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing!” is one of the very few to have been written during this time.

“Hark! The herald angels sing, glory to the new born King; peace on earth and mercy mild- God and sinners reconciled!” The saying is true: “The hinge of history is on the door of a Bethlehem stable.”