



# And Also With You

JANUARY 2016

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## JANUARY

### SUNDAYS

10:00 am  
Worship  
(nursery provided)

### MONDAYS

10:45am-  
Intercessors-706-897-  
6381

6:30pm-Graham  
Cook Bible Study-  
Information: 455-5940

### WEDNESDAYS

10:30 am  
Women's Bible Study  
Information: 990-2973

### FRIDAYS

8:15 am  
Men's Group:  
Information 751-5266



## CHALICE BEARERS

### January 3

Bob and Jane  
Grafe

### January 10

Becky Johnson  
Jan Bogue

### January 17

Susan Jones  
Maggie Rockett

### January 24

Janic Terry  
Kitty Barksdale

### January 31

Maggie and Julian  
Carnes

## The Word Made Flesh



The Reverend Scott Davis

John 1:14 say, "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us...full of grace and truth." We know that Jesus is God's Word made flesh. God speaks a word to Adam, Eve, and the serpent in Gen-

esis 3 about Jesus' coming. There is a four thousand year gap before the Word becomes flesh, but God never forgets His promise no matter how long it takes.

In Acts 1:11, God speaks another word, promising that Jesus will one day return. Two thousand years later we are still waiting for that word to become flesh and dwell among us because when it does, it will be full of grace and truth for the rest of eternity.

God's MO is to speak words that later become reality. He wants us to discover, that the word alone is as real and wonderful as the flesh it later becomes. It is the gap between word spoken and word realized that invites us into intimacy with the Father. The gap is seldom easy and we sometimes do not get it right but it is in the gaps that we have opportunity to mature in Christ.

God tells Sarai and Abram that they will have a son. Word spoken. Twenty five years later the word becomes flesh and dwells among them. However, during the gap, Sarai's pain over the unrealized word causes her to *in flesh* the promise herself. We are still paying a terrible price for her choice today. Our flesh can

cause a counterfeit promise to materialize, but it will always be carnal and never quite right. It is only when God's Word becomes flesh by God's own hand that it is followed by grace and truth.

Luke 1:20 tells us that God's words will come true at their *appointed time*. Sarai can not wait for the *appointed time* and brings heart ache upon herself and others. Every word from God has its *appointed time*. Wait for it. It will be worth it!

Each congregation has its own DNA and no two DNA strands are alike even as no two congregations are alike. Our DNA at Grace is unlike any other church's. So much of this church's ministry has to do

with listening prayer: Hearing from God. I believe that in 2016 God will take us to a next level in hearing. What do we hear? Words. Sometimes they are in picture form because a picture is worth a thousand words. Sometimes



God communicates through verses in Scripture. These are always a sure bet, but in whatever way He communicates, it is ultimately a word for us. The difficulty is not just in hearing but also in waiting out the gap between the word given and the word realized. It is in the gap that our sanctification occurs.

I had a 1990 Miata convertible for many years. It was the most fun car I have every owned. However, the a/c went out in 2007 and by 2010 it was not so fun. One day, out of the blue, I heard a word from God in my heart that He was going to send me a new car. (I at least hoped it was from Him because Satan was

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trying to convince me that I had made it all up since I wanted a new car.) I was still paying for three in college and so a new car was not in the budget at the time. I, however, rejoiced in the Word.



What did I have to lose? I prayed over the Word. I summoned the Word. I believed the Word, yet no car. I was in *the gap*.

During the gap, I had phoned a very prophetic prayer minister in North Carolina about something else, unrelated to automobiles! We had only met on the phone once before and she did not know me from Adam's house cat (to quote my grandmother). As the lady was ministering to me on the phone, I silently asked the Lord to



confirm if the word about the car was really from Him.

Within *ten seconds* the lady says, "Oh, and by the way the Lord is sending you a new car. I don't know what kind because I don't

know cars very well but it looks like a Toyota or a Lexus from the back." (It turned out to be a Nissan.)

That word encouraged me during the gap period to keep believing. I must admit, I had pulled a Sarai and gone on Ebay quite a few times looking for deals, but luckily, my spirit felt quenched each time I did it so left it alone.

Finally in 2013, through a totally unexpected circumstance that came out of the blue, the Lord sent money for a new car. Because of the way it came I knew that it was from Him. I had nothing to do with it. The word finally became flesh and dwelt among me full of grace and truth.

The reason I say that it is full of grace and truth is because now when the Lord gives me a word that seems over the top or too wonderful to believe I look in the driveway and see God's grace in the impossible and God's truth that His Word will always come to pass. I love my car, but I love even more the fact that the God of the universe spoke to me. This experience is an invitation to intimacy with Him. It will not become flesh until its appointed time. It is the gap time that becomes sacred time where we learn to trust when all we have is His word.

Happy New Year, Father Scott +

Father Scott will be in Israel January 18-27.



Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem (Psalm 122.6)

Sabbatical Committee's next meeting is Tuesday, January 12 at 5pm.



The Stewards' next meeting is Thursday, January 14 at 10:am



This year Grace Church designated our two missionary families as recipients of a Christmas offering that was taken during Advent. Each family is being given \$725. Thank you for your generosity and please continue to pray for both families. The Riley's have baby #4 in January and the Skinner's are still working on getting permanent visas.



Birthdays

- 6 Jan Bogue
- 9 Hannah Roth
- 9 Howard Whittington
- 12 Sherlyn Culwell
- 16 C J Kriner
- 19 Alan Pate



We Give Thanks For  
New faces seen around Grace  
Church in 2014-15

- TJ Adkison
- Crystal Hadley
- Gwen Simmons
- Connie Murfin
- Eddie Bals
- Linda Gregg

