

Grace & Truth Bible Church

Virginia, Minnesota

June 2020

And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord. Ephesians 6:4

The Need for Godly Fathers

Many of the problems in our society can be traced to the lack of discipline in the home due to an absence of fathers. Mothers are nurturers and their love and tender care are needed for children to develop, but children also need the firm and loving discipline of God-fearing fathers to learn respect for God and authority. One of the greatest needs in our nation today is for men to who realize they have a responsibility to raise the children they father.

- Children are four times as likely to be living in poverty in father-absent homes (U.S. Dept. of Health).
- 90-percent of homeless and runaway children come from fatherless homes.
- Children without fathers at home are 10 times more likely to abuse alcohol or drugs.
- 71-percent of adolescent substance abusers come from fatherless homes.
- 80-percent of adolescents in psychiatric facilities are from fatherless homes.
- Children from father-absent homes are nine times more likely to drop out of school (National Principals Association).
- 70-percent of juveniles in correctional facilities are from fatherless homes.
- Children in father-absent homes are 11 times more likely to engage in violent behavior and 20 times more likely to be incarcerated.

So, there is a need for fathers to love, care for and discipline their children, but an even greater need for fathers who fear God themselves and who will bring their children up in the training and admonition of the Lord. This will be a blessing to our homes, communities and nation.

Help, LORD, for the godly man ceases! For the faithful disappear from among the sons of men. Psalm 12:1

June Services

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| June 7 | Communion – Pastor DeMarte |
| June 14 | Pastor DeMarte a.m. – DVD p.m. |
| June 21 | Pastor DeMarte |
| June 28 | Picnic after morning service at Olcott Park |

Welcome! It is great to be back to our building and the assembly of those of “like precious faith” and “who call on the Lord out of a pure heart”. Gathering together as believers in Christ is important and is commanded in Scripture (Hebrews 11:25). It is vital for the church to grow spiritually and minister effectively. I pray the freedom to meet will be even more cherished after being denied that privilege for so long.

We will continue to practice social distancing during our services. Families and those living in the same facility can sit together, but everyone else is asked to sit at least six feet apart. We will have a children’s church and a separate nursery class on Sunday mornings and Kids 4 Truth on Wednesday. 2B Free is meeting on Thursdays and the men’s Bible study on Fridays. Other meetings and ministries will be announced when we are able to resume them.

Our building in Aurora needs attention. We are changing realtors and hopefully, the building can be sold soon, but the yard needs to be mowed and the weeds removed. Some work needs to be done in the building as well – vacuuming, cleanup and a couple small repairs. All of this could be done in a few hours if we get a few folks together to work on it.

A picnic is planned at Olcott Park on June 28th after the morning service (assuming the park is open by then). Depending on the restrictions, we may have a regular potluck, or each family may need to bring their own food. TBA

Congratulations to Kyle and Kelly Hester on the birth of their first child, Kate Kristen, born on May 23rd. Baby Kate weighed 7# 11oz. and was 20 inches long.

May offerings – Not available

Memory verses for June: Galatians 5:13-16

5:13 For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not *use* liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

5:14 For all the law is fulfilled in one word, *even* in this: "YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF."

5:15 But if you bite and devour one another, beware lest you be consumed by one another!

5:16 I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.

I Must Be Fit

I must be fit for a child to follow,
scorning the places where loose men wallow;
knowing how much he shall learn from me,
I must be fair as I'd have him be.

I must come home to him day by day,
clean as the morning I went away.
I must be fit for a child's glad greeting;
his are eyes that there is no cheating.

He must behold me in every test,
not at my worst but my very best;
he must be proud when my life is done
to have men know that he is my son.

- Edgar Guest

