



REFLECTIONS

Grace OPC

What's Going on with Evangelism?

By Pastor Brian De Jong

In our continuing series on “What’s going on at Grace Church?” we tackle the topic of evangelism. What’s going on with evangelism at our church?

First off, let me define what I mean by “evangelism?” The idea of evangelism is rooted in the “evangel” – the good news. That good news is about Jesus Christ, and His work to save sinners from hell. We are proclaiming that there is a Savior, and that He is the only one who can save a guilty sinner from the judgment and destruction that he deserves.

So evangelism is sharing the good news of the gospel with lost sinners, calling them to repent and believe in the Lord Jesus Christ. Our evangelism is necessarily Christ-centered, and is unafraid to tell men and women that they are lost and dead in their trespasses and sins.

Back to our opening question, what’s going on with evangelism in our church? Are we concerned about outreach, and are we actually doing outreach?

The evangelistic ministry of our church includes and involves the pulpit ministry of me, as your pastor. I am regularly preaching the gospel during our worship services (recall recent sermons on 1 Corinthians 15:1-11). I am also modeling evangelism in the congregation. As you hear me proclaim the gospel, it helps you understand how you can and should

proclaim the gospel. Furthermore, the preaching from our pulpit is designed to train and equip you in your duty to reach out to your neighbors, friends, coworkers, etc. When the topic arises in the text of Scripture, I am teaching on how to do evangelistic outreach. Another thing we do related to evangelism is highly important – we pray. We pray for opportunities to share the good news. We pray for wisdom in how to speak to the lost. We pray for

clarity and boldness in our declaration of Christ crucified. We also pray for specific people we are concerned about – whether that is a neighbor, a family member, a coworker, or any other person we encounter. If only God can change a sinner’s heart, then we must beseech Him to change the sinful hearts of the people we encounter. Evangelism without the undergirding ministry of prayer is unwise, at best.

Some might wonder, don’t we have an “evangelism program?” Why isn’t there a specific program oriented toward witnessing? In my experience with evangelistic programs such as “Evangelism Explosion,” there is an artificiality about those programs. Cold-calling on complete strangers has never worked too well, in my experience.

Instead, we have encouraged our members to interact with the people that God has providentially brought into their lives, and to share the gospel with those folk. As God gives opportunity, we can minister

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Mnemonics...

- *Church Picnic, August 8th*

Church Picnic

Mark your calendars for our annual church picnic which will take place on August 8th, Thursday, at 6:00 pm. Look for a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall. The church will be serving grilled brats and hamburgers.



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Anchor of Hope Newsletter



Turn on the news and it's easy to find stories and features regarding the issue of life. More than 20 presidential candidates are out on the stump, affirming their support for abortion-on-demand up until, and even beyond, a child's birth. Watching the recent debates was difficult, as individual candidates attempted to distinguish themselves as the most "pro-choice" candidate.

Some states are moving to "codify" Roe v. Wade, passing liberal abortion laws which might have shocked many of the justices who gave us Roe in 1973. At the same time, other states are passing laws to directly challenge Roe, setting off massive boycotts and unhinged rhetoric.

What about us? How does this affect those who visit Anchor of Hope? While we occasionally hear one of our patients or clients bring up something they noticed in the media regarding the life issue, the simple truth is that decisions in Washington or in Madison or across the country are rarely on the radar of those we see.

Those who come in our door are often hurting over a relationship, struggling with their own situations and trying to figure out, "What do I do now?" They can't run to a candidate for support. Nor can they worry about what the Supreme Court may decide—or not decide—in the future.

Because right now, she (and often he, too) is in a crisis. Right now, she needs answers. Right now, she needs someone who will listen, who is ready to take her by the hand and walk through the storm with her, who will bring hope to what seems a hopeless situation.

This is our calling. This is our mission at-hand. What goes on in Washington or in our state certainly impacts our work—no doubt about it. But as speculation and rhetoric swirls about us, our next steps are as clear today as the day we opened our doors.

We reach out to those in a frighteningly difficult situation. We offer life-affirming hope. We share the love of Christ. We bring practical help. We stand beside those who call on us. It's what we do.

For the most part, the media doesn't see us. When we do receive media attention, it's often misinformation, based on false narratives created by those who wish for our demise. Newsflash: We're staying right where we are. We remain on call, for all who call upon us.

Why? Because amidst the media firestorm over the life issue, we see a day when our community, right here in Sheboygan County, celebrates life to such an extent that not one individual sees abortion as an option. Because if no one chooses to end a pregnancy, a culture of life prevails above all the rhetoric.

We don't know what will happen in the next election, or in the next session of the Supreme Court.

But we do know this: We have a job to do. And each day, we're one step closer to fulfilling the mission God has for us. Thank you for being on mission with us as we continue to serve the community.

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Offering a **SECOND CHOICE** is important to us!

Abortion Pill Rescue, formerly known as Abortion Pill Reversal, is now a service offered at Anchor of Hope.

Making an Informed Choice

A well-kept piece of information in the abortion industry is a medical protocol known as the [Abortion Pill Rescue/Reversal](#) (APR). This protocol exists for women who change their minds after taking one of two pills required for a medical abortion.

What is the Abortion Pill and how is it reversed?



For those not familiar with the abortion pill, it is the chemical process for pregnancy termination, typically consisting of two drugs and available throughout the first 70 days following a woman's last menstrual period.

The first of the two drugs to be administered is [mifepristone](#), also known as the RU 486 pill. Mifepristone blocks the hormone progesterone and causes a thinning of the uterine lining. Since progesterone is required for a healthy pregnancy to

continue, mifepristone ingestion causes the uterus to stop supporting the developing embryo, therefore [ending the life of the embryo](#).

It is at this point, after ingesting of the first pill, that a woman still has the opportunity to change her mind, if she chooses she no longer wishes to terminate her pregnancy.

A recent article published in [Issues in Law and Medicine](#) reported a significant success rate in an observational case study including 754 patients who decided to attempt a reversal of the medical abortion process after taking mifepristone. The results demonstrated reversal rates of 64%-68%, depending on delivery factors and progesterone dosage.

Published reviews report the upper survival rate after mifepristone administration alone ranges from 10-25%. Considering the published statistics and success rate of [Dr. George Delgado's APR research](#), withholding this information borders on doing a disservice to every woman facing a decision resulting from an unplanned pregnancy. As a provider of choice and accurate information regarding pregnancy options, Anchor of Hope has added this service to its list of provided medical services.

CALL 1-877-558-0333 for more information or refer to Anchor of Hope

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Anchor of Hope Continued.....

Refreshment Notes

These suggestions are being made in order to better serve everyone on Sunday mornings and also to have less congestion in the kitchen. We now have a pump pot for dispensing hot water for tea and hot chocolate. This can be filled with water heated in the electric kettle – heating kettle twice should easily fill it. Those serving refreshments are encouraged to fill this and put it on the counter near the coffee pot with a variety of teas and canister of hot chocolate. All food choices can be put on the table if the serving counter gets too full with drink options.

Please refill sugar packet holders before putting them away. Then they are always ready to be used.

Please use ziplok bags and/or sealed containers provided for storing opened cookies, crackers, etc., to keep them fresh.

Lastly, please take all leftovers of food and drinks home with you unless you make arrangements for someone else to serve them in the near future.

Thank you!

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Kitchen Supplies Continued....

Church Kitchen Supply List and Notes

In storeroom across from kitchen:

- tablecloths / burlap
- extra paper goods
- rolling cart
- very large trays
- extra trash can (large)
- 3 Nescos
- 2 high chairs
- 5 gallon drink cooler

In Kitchen:

Lazy Susan:

- Dutch oven
- pots and pans
- electric fry pan
- fry pan (please use only nylon utensils with coated pans)
- mixing bowls

Cabinet above refrigerator: stock pots

Narrow bottom cabinet next to fridge: cookie sheets, large round platters

Lower cabinet next to fridge: new serving trays

Coffee pot cabinet: toaster

In Janitor closet off nursery:

- regular high chair
- 2nd refrigerator

August Birthdays

Jonathan Arndt	3rd
Wendy Froh	15th
Ellen McNeese	20th
Sandy Baatz	29th



August Anniversaries

Brian & De Lou De Jong
~August 9th, 33 years~

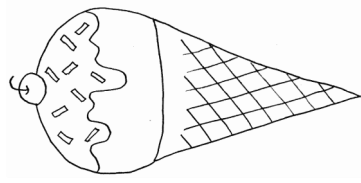




Showing forth the excellencies of Jesus Christ

Grace OPC

August 2019



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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
4	5	6	7	8 Church Picnic	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Sheet Pan Breakfast Bake

Ingredients:

- 1 1/2 pounds russet potatoes
- 2 tablespoons unsalted butter, melted, plus more at room temperature, for serving
- 8 slices thick-cut bacon
- 1 red bell pepper, diced
- 1 small yellow onion, diced
- 2 teaspoons garlic powder
- 2 teaspoons paprika
- Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 4 slices white bread, toasted
- 4 large eggs
- Chopped chives, for garnish



*“For He
has satisfied
the thirsty
soul,
and the
hungry soul
He has filled
with what
is good.”*

Instructions:

- Prick the potatoes all over with a fork and brush them with 1 tablespoon of the melted butter. Put on a microwave-safe plate and microwave, flipping halfway, until fork-tender, 10 to 15 minutes. Set aside to cool slightly.
- Meanwhile, preheat the oven to 450 degrees F. When the potatoes are cool enough to handle, cut into bite-size pieces and set aside.
- Add the bacon to a sheet pan and bake until golden, about 15 minutes. Set the bacon aside on a paper towel-lined plate.
- Add the potatoes, bell peppers and onions to the sheet pan and toss to coat in the bacon fat. Sprinkle with the garlic powder, paprika, 2 teaspoons salt and 1 teaspoon pepper and toss again to coat with the spices. Spread out in a single layer and bake, tossing halfway through, until the onions and peppers are softened, about 20 minutes.
- Cut a 2-inch round from the center of each slice of toast; reserve the toast and rounds.
- Push the vegetables aside on the sheet pan to make a space in one corner and arrange the toast in 2 rows in the empty corner. Spread the vegetables evenly around the toast and add the bacon on top of the vegetables.
- Divide the remaining 1 tablespoon melted butter among the 4 holes in the toast and crack an egg into each. Place the 4 rounds around the toast. Bake until the eggs are set, 7 to 10 minutes. Top the eggs with chives and spread each toast round with butter.



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Spurgeon

Corner

“The people that do know their God shall be strong.”

Daniel 11:32

Every believer understands that to know God is the highest and best form of knowledge; and this spiritual knowledge is a source of strength to the Christian. It strengthens his *faith*. Believers are constantly spoken of in the Scriptures as being persons who are enlightened and taught of the Lord; they are said to “have an unction from the Holy One,” and it is the Spirit’s peculiar office to lead them into all truth, and all this for the increase and the fostering of their faith. Knowledge strengthens *love*, as well as faith. Knowledge opens the door, and then through that door we see our Saviour. Or, to use

another similitude, knowledge paints the portrait of Jesus, and when we see that portrait then we love him, we cannot love a Christ whom we do not know, at least, in some degree. If we know but little of the excellences of Jesus, what he has done for us, and what he is doing now, we cannot love him much; but the more we know him, the more we shall love him. Knowledge also strengthens *hope*. How can we hope for a thing if we do not know of its existence? Hope may be the telescope, but till we receive instruction, our ignorance stands in the front of the glass, and we can see nothing whatever; knowledge removes the interposing object, and when we look through the bright optic glass we discern the glory to be revealed, and anticipate it with joyous confidence. Knowledge supplies us reasons for *patience*. How shall we have patience unless we know something of the sympathy of Christ, and understand the good which is to come out of the correction which our heavenly Father sends us? Nor is there one single grace of the Christian which, under God, will not be fostered and brought to perfection by holy knowledge. How important, then, is it that we should grow not only in grace, but in the “knowledge” of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Morning, August 4th C.H. Spurgeon

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SERMONAUDIO.COM/

GRACESHEBOYGAN

CHECK OUT THE WEBSITE:

GRACEOPCSHEBOYGAN.COM



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effectively to a friend from the neighborhood who is deeply mired in sin. We can develop a relationship with a coworker at the office, in hopes of sharing the good news with that coworker. Through this “relational evangelism,” we invest in people and love them, in hopes of having the opportunity to tell them the best news we can tell them – that Jesus died for sinners just like them.

One more thing we are doing for evangelism – we open up our social fellowship activities to visitors and non-members. We encourage our members to invite a friend to the church picnic, for instance. These are the “side doors” for involving people in the life of the church.

Though we may not directly share the gospel with them at the church picnic, we are building trust and establishing relationships that can lead to direct evangelism.

