

Congregational Meeting

June 26th
following the worship service



CHURCH MEETINGS ARE BRILLIANT



Nominations

Nominations for elders and deacons will be accepted through June 12th. All members are eligible to nominate men for office.



June 2011

www.freegrace.us

The Reign of Grace

Quotes from Scotty Smith (a PCA pastor) regarding the reign of grace, the topic of the new sermon series.

If grace is to have its transforming way in our lives, we must submit to it as loyal, devoted servants submit unquestionably to a king. We who have been made objects of God's tender affection have also been made subjects in his transforming kingdom, servants of the era of "new creation," participants in the reign of grace.

We live as participants under (grace's) transforming dominion rather than as visitors who casually tour Buckingham Palace - checking out its treasures.

God's grace is given freely and undeservedly, but not without intent and implications. We dare not try to privatize or domesticate the significance of God's grace. We have been called into a dynamic love affair - one that gives more than we could have ever hoped and demands more than we would freely give. To receive God's grace in Christ is to be brought into a revolutionary reign, not ushered into a quiet rest home! God's love is as disruptive as it is delightful, as demanding as it is delicious! God loves us exactly as we are today, but he loves us too much to leave us as we are and where we are.

We experience grace to be as consuming as it is consoling - for we find ourselves thrust directly into the presence of Jesus...learn(ing) how to respond to his beauty, love, and majesty - not merely how grace can help us live a more full and enjoyable Christian life.

CONTACT INFO

160 Canal St
Lewiston, ME 04240

207.513.1355



Faith without works is dead

so here is proof that work does happen at the church...

images from the church work day on May 28



Thanks to all who pitched in - from the biggest to the smallest.

The Next Steps

What needs to happen at the congregational meeting

The elders have called a congregational meeting after the worship service on June 26. This meeting is part of the process as we move through the steps to having our own officers.

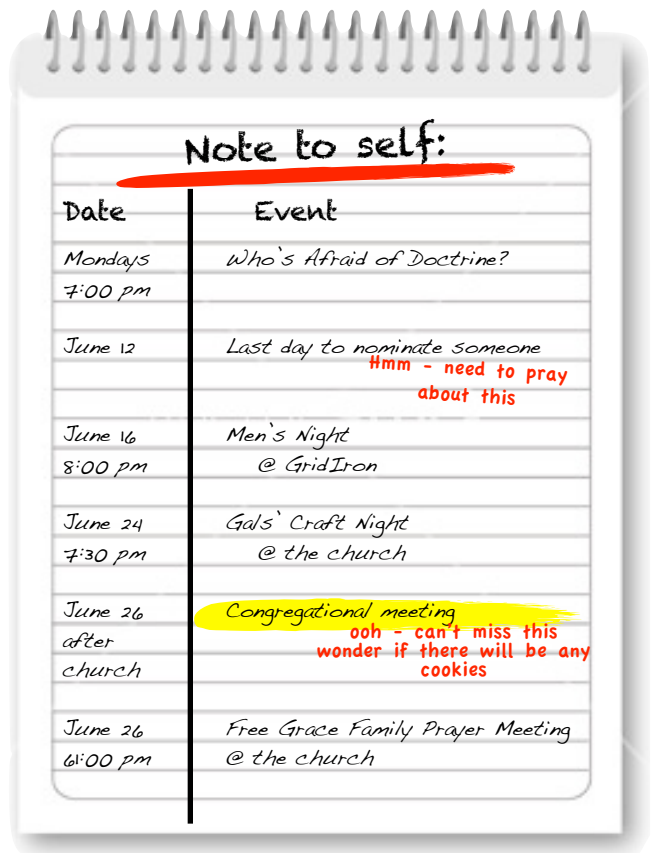
There are three things that will take place at the meeting: two votes and an announcement.

- We will need to vote to ask Presbytery to allow us to organize and elect officers.
- We will need to vote on whether to call Per as the pastor of the church.
- The candidates for elder and deacon who have been nominated, and examined and approved by the elders as qualified will be announced. The elections will be held at another meeting in late July after Presbytery has approved moving forward.

It is important that all members of the church attend this meeting and participate in this process.

Want to participate in this historic step for the church but aren't a member?

This is your personal invitation, talk to Per.



The Light in the Middle of the Tunnel

God works wondrously in church's financial situation.
Church still resting in him.

by Per

It has been almost two months since we learned that the church's financial situation had reached a very difficult position. In response to this, we gathered as a congregation to pray and worship God. And we have continued to pray and worship throughout these past seven weeks.

What have we seen God doing during those same seven weeks? A tremendous amount!

He has provided a number of one-time gifts.

These gifts have allowed us to erase the deficit from April. Even beyond that, they have allowed us to put some money back into savings to ease some bumps in our income.

Back in April we had announced the need to raise an additional \$3,000 per month. This amount would allow us to return to paying full salaries and cover all our current expenses and even the ones we project incurring over the coming year.

The gauge to the right shows that he has provided approximately 1/3 of our target. Between these new gifts and the reduction in payroll, our regular monthly

expenses are roughly equal to our monthly giving. This means that we are breaking even and not spending ourselves into debt.

We continue to return to Ken's summary of our response to all that God does - worship. His provision - the one-time gifts that allow us to sleep at night and the ongoing partnerships that allow us to move forward - is all to his glory.

Yet even with all of his displays of his goodness, we need to continue to run to him. Our need for him never lessens. And it has not lessened now.

We have reached 1/3 of our goal. But we still have 2/3 left to go. Put simply, the first third allows us to not cut payroll any more drastically. The next third will

allow us to restore pay to all and return to paying people what we have promised. And the last third will cover the new and increased expenses we know are coming.

Let us rejoice in the wonder of his goodness, praising him for what he has done and resting in him for the future.



Where we stand on our goal of \$3000 per month.

How to Give

Checks may be made out to **Free Grace** and sent to the church. Or you can give online. Instructions can be found at: <http://www.freegrace.us/give>