

# *Grace Bible Church Connection*

*August 2010*

## **Still a Mission After 130 years!**

*By Pastor Larry Rupp*

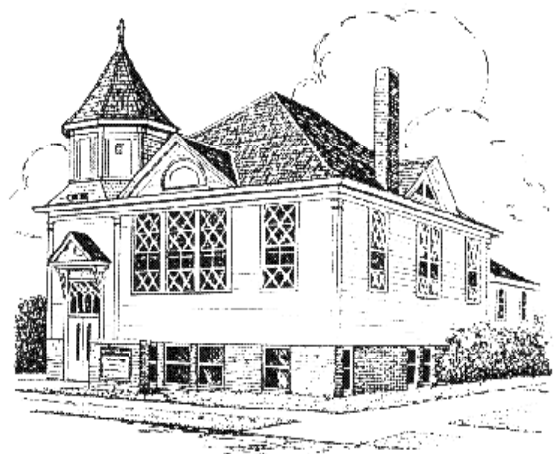
Our Church was born on February 29, 1880. On that day seven men and women with a pioneering , missionary spirit, came together to form a church that would minister, and reach out to Gilbert, Iowa. In 1880 Gilbert was largely an unfarmed and unfenced community. These seven individuals had faith in God and wanted that faith to be past on to their children and community. Through 130 years, at least thirty-six pastors, six name changes, and countless faithful individuals, Grace Bible Church and that mission endures.

That pioneering missionary spirit is still needed today. As is the need to reach out to the Gilbert community with a church that will speak the truth of God's word and to be a faithful witness of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The challenge for us is: Are we still missionaries? Do we still see a need for a Gospel witness in Gilbert? Are we willing to sacrifice to make this so?

On August 22nd we will be celebrating the past and look forward to future of Grace Bible Church. This future and mission is what we are all about. Please meditate on Hebrews 12:1-2 and think about those who came before us and imagine those who will come after us:

*Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.*

*Hebrews 12:1-2*



**Join us on August 22 and Invite your friends and neighbors!**

I recently read a book on one of the most challenging topics in the Christian faith: can a person lose their salvation? If so, how? If they can't, then what should we do with all of the passages in the Scriptures that warn us (such as those in Hebrews) and challenge us to continue in our faith? These are big questions that we would do well to consider carefully because they have the potential to change how we think about our beliefs and what it looks like to continue in faithfulness.

The book is called "Run to Win the Prize" and is authored by Thomas Schreiner, who is a professor in the New Testament department at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Let me go ahead and encourage you to pick up a copy of the book - and don't let it's short length deceive you (128 pages) because each page is jam-packed with solid Biblical thought that is both challenging and edifying in every way and he does a great job of explaining what Scripture says on this difficult topic.

Schreiner's view is that the warnings in the Bible really are warnings to Christians and that they really do mean what they say they mean. But there's a twist: Schreiner continues by saying that the warnings aren't meant retrospectively (that is, the warnings don't speak of something which has already happened) but should instead be read prospectively (which is to say that they are warnings to prevent apostasy). He then goes on to give the example of a mother warning her child to not play in the street otherwise he might be hit by a car. The mother's warning - heeded by the child - will keep the child safe. Similarly, the Biblical warnings to persevere in our faith and to stay the course will be heeded by all who truly are Christians (rather than those who would simply wear the "Christian" label) and thus Christians have assurance not in spite of, but because of, the warnings - by reading them and taking them seriously, we can have assurance of our salvation because we will heed them and thus know that we are in the family of God.

That's a lot of unpack in just a few paragraphs, but let me summarize by simply saying that if you wish to be stretched in your faith in healthy ways while being reassured that the God who began a good work in you will bring it to completion and won't let you go, then Schreiner's book is a must read. Consider his argument, be challenged, search the Scriptures, and enjoy.

-Pastor Kevin

*Coming in September!*

*Esther with Beth Moore*

*Women of Grace*

*More details to come!*



## **130th Anniversary Celebration Church in the Park**

**Sunday August 22,  
2010**

**10:30am Worship Service**

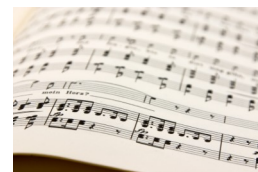
at Upstill Park

Picnic Pot-luck to follow!

Bring a folding chair and dress  
casually No Sunday school or Nursery!



## **GBC Music Camp**



**AUGUST 2ND-6TH, 9AM-11:30AM**

We will be offering a free music camp this summer during which children will be able to participate by helping to write and perform music under the guidance of Amanda Jennings. Combined with this, children will also get a chance to do some limited instrumentation and older children will be given the opportunity to create and edit a music video featuring their music.

A performance of the new music and related video will follow from 11:30am-12 noon on August 6th. Lunch will be provided and parents are invited to come and see what their kids have worked so hard on.

Contact Kevin to register.

Registration is required, so please contact us before July 30th!

**CHANGING LIVES  
THROUGH JESUS CHRIST**

*Grace Bible Church*  
308 Mathews Drive  
P.O., Box 189  
Gilbert, IA 50105

Staff

Larry Rupp - Lead Pastor

Kevin Miller - Pastor of Discipleship & Community

Engagement

Amanda Jennings - Worship Director

Service Times:

Sunday Morning Prayer: 8:30am

Sunday School : 9:00 a.m.

Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.

E.K.G.: Wednesday 6:30pm

Phone: 515-232-1126  
Parsonage: 515-232-2821  
E-mail: gilbertefc@msn.com  
Website: gracebible50105.org

CONNECTING TO THE GILBERT AREA  
WITH THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST



## Women of Grace

# Watch for a special event in August!

### Summer EKG

During the summer, we will be holding a time of prayer and study at 6:30pm each Wednesday evening. Additionally, the first Wednesday of each month we will be holding a "First Wednesday Fellowship" in which food will be served starting at 6pm. Join us for a fellowship pot-luck August 4!

#### Ministering to the Lord, His Church, and One Another

Date	Nursery	Ushers/Greeters	Treats	Cleaning
08-01-10	Edith & Anita	Marvin & Dick	Lorrie	Joan & Baker's
08-08-10	Carol & Holly	Ed & Cal		Becker's
08-15-10	Annette & Jan	Jeremy & Seth		Cindy & Annette
08-22-10	Cindy	Dave R. & Kirk		Lornston's
08.29.10	Bonnie & Susan	Wade & Annette		Dunshree's

Reminder: Please clean up and do dishes after treats.

If you are unable to serve your date, please find a replacement to switch with or a substitute.

Thanks for serving - we appreciate you!