



Information, News,
and Encouragement of . . .

November, 2009
Vol. 24 No. 3

Grace Christian Schools
A Ministry of Mission Valley Christian Fellowship

Thanksgiving

No day in the civil year of any other people has quite the significance of Thanksgiving Day for Americans. It grew from very definite religious roots, and although some of its manifestations in our day are not very religious, yet the proclamations of all the presidents have recognized that God is the giver of all our blessings, and that we must give Him our individual as well as our united thanks. One of the most significant acts of our Lord Jesus occurred during the institution of the Last Supper: "And He took the cup, and gave thanks." Let us also give thanks for all things; they come from the hand of God.

--Henry Barraclough

Character Builder
AVAILABILITY

Simplifying our daily needs so we are ready and able to serve those whom God brings to us.

November's Field Trip—San Diego Symphony
Wednesday, November 4th @ 9:15am
1245 7th Avenue, San Diego, CA 92101

Copley Symphony Hall is a beautiful place to see and a wonderful place to hear the beautiful music! \$5 per person (bring cash). You will need money for parking. The program is only 1 hour long. Parking is available on the street across from the hall. Each seat is \$5, even kids in strollers! Call Gigi Halcott to reserve your place @ (619) 390-1389 or Brenda Blais @ (858) 277-5733.



December's Field Trip
Wednesday, December 2nd @ 10am
Creation & Earth History Museum
10946 Woodside Ave. North, Santee, CA 92071

Admission is free. Donations accepted. Come and see the wonderful world God created explained scientifically and biblically. Newly expanded bookstore with lots of homeschool materials. If we have more than 15 we will get a museum docent to give us a guided tour! Call Gigi Halcott @ (619) 390-1389 to reserve your spot!



January's Field Trip
Tuesday, January 19th @ 9am
Reuben H. Fleet Museum and
IMAX Theater

Meet out back by the parking lot. We will enter at 9:30am (NO LATE COMERS, PLEASE!). We will have extra time in the museum to enjoy the exhibits. The cost is \$6/person. Call Gigi Halcott @ (619) 390-1389 or Brenda Blais @ (858) 277-5733 to sign up!

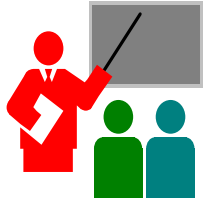
The Grace office will be closed on Wednesday, November 11th for Veterans' Day.
The office will also be closed the week of November 23rd-27th for the ACSI Convention and the Thanksgiving Holidays.



Coming Field Trip Events to Look Forward To!!!

- Feb. 9th—Scripps Aquarium
- March—Antique Train Ride & Museum
- April—Sea World
- May—USS Midway





Parent Training

Parent Training is **mandatory** and beneficial and fulfills a part of California State Education Law which says, "Private school teachers must be *capable of teaching*." Our Parent Training course is offered to you with a certificate awarded to demonstrate our intent and your intent to comply with the law.

We now have the series **The 7 Laws of the Teacher** by Howard Hendricks available on DVD for you to borrow and view at home. This will fulfill your parent training requirement. If you need us to mail them to you, please call the Grace office @ (858) 541-0373. You will be able to have the dvds for a month.

We also have available from the Institute in Basic Life Principles, the **Financial Freedom** series. This course will instruct you in God's principles of finance and is excellent for parents and students alike. 5 credits in Economics will be given to high school students who view all 20 50-minute dvds and pass the final exam.

Dunamis Learning Center

(619) 319-5887 (Note New Address below)

1224 10th St., Suite 103, Coronado, CA 92118

Grades 1-12 Using ACE PACE Curriculum

1-5 Days/Week, 8:30am-2:45pm

Small classroom setting for more individualized attention. Flexible payment options.

10% discount if paid in full.

After school tutoring and lab classes open to all students

Classes start September 8th

Office open 8am-3pm

Jo Sand, Administrator

Words of Grace is a monthly publication of Grace Christian Schools, 3656 Ruffin Rd., Suite B, San Diego, CA 92123. (858) 541-0373. We are a ministry of Mission Valley Christian Fellowship, www.mcvf.com.

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Need Help With Your Homeschooling?

Tierrasanta Christian Independent Study Program,

supervised by credentialed teacher, **Silvia Malanga**, is designed for students who need a more individualized program.

Students meet daily from 8am-noon, Monday through Friday. TC/ISP provides a safe Christian environment for its students. For more information call (858) 292-4371 or (858) 232-0585.

Individual tutoring also available.



Homemade Baby Blankets by Sandy Ballinger

If you would like to put your order in for a homemade knitted baby blanket in any color of baby yarn, I would like to make it for you. My blankets are 35" square or made to the size you want. They are made from the finest of baby yarn.

I am charging \$39 for each blanket and will need time to make them. It is a way I can be creative and earn a little bit of extra money. I work at the Grace office so you can call me there (858) 541-0373) for more information. My blankets make great Christmas gifts!

SAT/ACT Power Prep Software

Home School Legal Defense Association is making an SAT prep course available to all homeschool families, members of HSLDA or not. You can get this software (either SAT or ACT) for \$13.84 (the cost of shipping and handling). (Note new price). Normally this would sell for \$199.95. If you are interested go to <http://www.hsllda.org>. Each DVD is good for 12 months from the date of receipt.

Addresses for You to Know

Family Protection Ministries (Roy Hanson)

PO Box 730, Lincoln, CA 95648-0730

(916) 786-3523, www.childandfamilyprotection.org

Christian Family Schools of San Diego

P.O. Box 460416, Escondido, CA 92046

www.cfssd.org (760) 752-8111

CHEA (Christian Home Educator's Ass'n)

(562) 864-CHEA Website: cheaofca.org

NATHHAN (NATional cHallenged Homeschoolers Associated Network)

Special Needs Children

Local contact: Jim & Debby Mills, (619) 469-5822



Coming Attractions

Driver's Ed. And Driver's Training

Our proposed schedule for Driver's Ed. classes (2009-2010) is as follows:

- December 12, 2009
- February 27, 2010
- April 24, 2010



Other classes will be planned as needed. Our Driver's Ed. class is from 9am-12noon and one parent must accompany the student. The cost of the class is \$90 and it is held at the Grace office. **We need at least 6 students in order to hold the class.**

Please give us a call if you are interested at (858) 541-0373. **REMEMBER** that you must turn in the proper forms to the Grace office in order to receive the DMV form you will need in order to get either your Driver's Permit, or Driver's License. Please do not make your appointment with the DMV until you have the official form (from us) in your hands.

**"Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto Him with psalms."
--Psalm 95:2**



Attention: All Juniors and Seniors who are currently enrolled in our 2009-2010 school year.

Your graduation packets have been mailed to you. These have vital information concerning dates and times for this year's events. There are official forms that must be filled out and returned to us. There is also information about announcements and CAT/SAT Tests. There is a list of the dates that each item is due back in the office. If you do not receive a graduation packet and are planning to graduate this year, please call the office at (858) 541-0373. Thank you!

--Judy Van Kampen



Note that bulk mail is not forwarded. Please provide address changes by the 25th of the month if you wish to continue receiving your newsletter uninterrupted!

Box Tops For Education

Don't forget to save box tops from products like **Cheerios, Ziploc, Huggies, Pillsbury, Betty Crocker, Juicy Juice, Kleenex** & more. Clip and save and send them to Grace Christian and we can earn money for our school. To learn more go to btfe.com. Thanks so much for your help!!!

Red Ribbon Operation—Nov. 6th, 9am-12noon Tabernacle Christian School

Various law enforcement agencies will be on display along with their vehicles for tours at the Tabernacle campus, 1765 Pentecost Way, San Diego. Also "Casey", S.D. Police Dept.'s robot will be visiting. Call Priscilla to reserve your place @ (619) 264-1721.



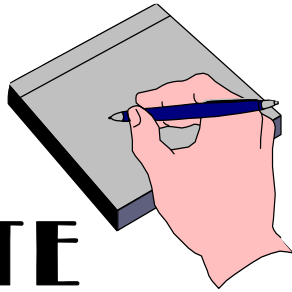
Brain Builder Answers

John Davis--orange--gooseberry
Dave Smith--green--raspberry
Tom Johnson--red--apple
Ted Thomas--yellow--peach
Sam Turner--blue--blueberry

teen commandments

1. Don't let your parents down; they brought you up.
2. Choose your companions with care; you become what they are.
3. Be master of your habits or they will master you.
4. Treasure your time; don't spend it, invest it.
5. Stand for something or you'll fall for anything.
6. See what you can do for others, not what they can do for you.
7. Guard your thoughts; what you think, you are.
8. Don't fill up on this world's crumbs; feed your soul on the Living Bread.
9. Give your all to Christ; He gave His all for you.

Items to NOTE



Pumpkin Facts—Did You Know??

- ◆ Pumpkins are fruits.
- ◆ Pumpkins are 90% water.
- ◆ Pumpkins are in the same family as squash and the difference is primarily their color. The two inter-pollinate and are botanically pretty much identical.
- ◆ One of the largest pumpkins ever grown weighed 1,337 lbs. The largest pumpkin pie ever made was over 5 feet in diameter, weighed over 350 lbs., and used 80 lbs. of cooked pumpkin and took 6 hours to bake.
- ◆ Pumpkins originated in North America. Native Americans used pumpkins as a staple in their diet long before the pilgrims came to America.
- ◆ In early colonial times, pumpkins were used as an ingredient for the crusts of pies, not the filling.
- ◆ Native Americans and colonists sliced off the pumpkins' tops, removed the seeds and filled the insides with milk, spices and honey and baked them in hot ash—the origins of pumpkin pie.



CAT Testing, 2009-2010

Here are the proposed dates for CAT testing this school year. CAT testing is mandatory at the Grace office for all 8th and 12th graders. Please call the office at (858) 541-0373 to schedule your student's test. Note that students must pass this test to be promoted. The test will be given the 3rd Tuesdays of each month:

- ◆ **Tuesday, November 17th**
- ◆ **Tuesday, December 15th**
- ◆ **Tuesday, January 19th**
- ◆ **Tuesday, February 16th**
- ◆ **Tuesday, March 16th**
- ◆ **Tuesday, April 20th**

There will be no testing in May or June. The test will be given from 10am-12:30pm and students should arrive by 9:45am.

Jotham's Journey- A Storybook for Advent

by Arnold Ytreeide (Book Review by Joan Brosnan)

While raising my sons I was always searching for any resource that would help our family to center on the birth of Jesus during the hectic and materialistic holiday of Christmas. One method we used was the celebration of Advent. Advent roughly means "before the birth" with devotions and time set aside for spiritual preparation before the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ. Most people associate the word Advent with various church traditions and customs that have grown up around the holiday of Christmas. During the Middle Ages, the Advent customs relied heavily on fasts and feasts. Today the modern traditions center on candles, wreaths and calendars.



I discovered the book entitled Jotham's Journey by Arnold Ytreeide just a few years ago. This book is an excellent tool to begin an Advent tradition with your children while continuing the wonderful read aloud habit during this consuming season.

The story centers around Jotham, a young shepherd boy who makes some serious choices that affect his life over a few months. Each daily 8-10 minute segment contains historical information about life during Bible times, portions of the Christmas story woven around Jotham's journey, his inner attitudes and emotions, a cliffhanger conclusion and a scripture lesson at the end. The writing is compelling and interesting and draws the reader into Jotham's predicament. I think that the message in each daily segment is applicable to all ages of believers.

Jotham's Journey touched my own heart and attitudes in many ways and drew me closer to the Lord during the Christmas season. I hope that you will purchase a copy of this book and start a new Advent tradition in your family. This book is available at Amazon.com or Timberdoodle.com.

"...Be thankful unto Him and bless His name!" —Psalm 100:4b

SPORTS



Girls' Volleyball--If you are 10 or older and want to play volleyball, you can still join us. Practices are being held on Tuesdays & Thursdays from 10-12 at DeAnza Cove. Call Becky Lawlor @ (619) 519-0428 for more information.

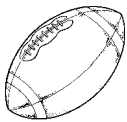
Football Time Again for Grace!

Practices and games are underway, but you can still join us!

We have both Varsity and Junior Varsity teams. Practices for students 10 and up are at the Kearny Mesa Recreation Center on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 3-6pm. Call Coach Danny Paylor for more information or if you need directions.

During the season, our games will be on

Friday afternoons. Expect the regular fee of \$120 for the season with a discount for families with multiple players. Fundraisers should help lower costs considerably.



Please speak to the coach if you have any financial or transportation concerns. You can reach him @ (619) 262-2540 or his cell phone (619) 889-5579. God bless you all and hope to see you all soon.

Gymnastics Classes for Homeschoolers

Gym Ventures Gymnastics has been running homeschool classes for several years. They are designed to teach fundamental gymnastics on all of the Olympic equipment with USAG certified coaches. They provide a loving and supportive environment for children of all ages to develop physical and mental awareness through gymnastics. They are located right off the I-5 and Mission Bay Dr./ Garnet exit. For more information you can go to their website @ www.gymventures.com or call Cindy Cunningham at (858) 272-2266.



Interested in Ballet Classes?

Contact Felicia Alvarez @ (619) 656-1283 or felicia.alvarez@sbcglobal.net
Classes are being held for beginners and more advanced students.

San Diego Civic Youth Ballet

For information about curriculum, tuition, costs, etc., go to www.sdcyb@sdcyb.org call (619) 233-3060. Classes are held for beginners or more advanced students.

EScrip

Are you looking for a way to earn money toward your account with Grace Christian? Escript is available for you and it's FREE!! When you register your credit cards, Von's card, etc. with escrip, a percentage of what you buy with vendors who deal with escrip is forwarded to Grace Christian in your name. Interested?? Call (858) 541-0373 for more information.

Cheri Moore, former homeschooling mom, will provide free notary services for missionaries in need of critical documents. Call her @ (858) 578-4321. @ (858) 578-4321.

College Admissions & Financial Aid Planning Services National College Funding Strategies, Inc.

Free educational workshops on College Financial Aid are being held at Living Way Church in Poway and The East County Business Center in El Cajon. Contact us for further details. All attendees will receive a free copy of the book, "The Parents' Guide to Financial Aid and College Funding."

- It is often cheaper to go to a private University than a state or UC school.
- Scholarships are given out for many reasons; high grades & athletics are just a small portion of the total disbursed. There are scholarships for students who are left handed, tall, surfers, etc.
- Start soon! Middle school is not too early. Studies find that parents who start financial aid research early receive the largest awards.

Free consultation to all of our families. Services include admissions, counseling, essay writing assistance, career assessments, scholarship strategies, leveraging, negotiations, and tax strategies, detailed reports showing which colleges offer the most "gift aid" and how your student can increase their chances of receiving that aid. Free Consultations! (800) 758-1752.



CollegePlus!

CollegePlus! Is a revolutionary Christian based program helping students earn their **fully accredited bachelor's degree in a fraction of the time and cost.** Through careful navigation and academic coaching, each student acquires a **superior level of education without the inefficiencies and humanistic pitfalls of today's traditional secular college.**

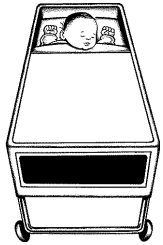
Distinct Advantages:

- ◆ Fully Accredited Bachelor's Degree
- ◆ Christian Worldview
- ◆ Study from Home
- ◆ Combine High School and College
- ◆ Entire Degree for Under \$15k.* (Save \$25,000 to \$90,000 on tuition)

* Few exceptions for majors that require significant on-site study/lab/studio time.

At CollegePlus!, we place high importance on the Biblical worldview students will receive. The course curriculum is based on a **Biblical worldview** and is **derived from leaders in the Christian movement** such as Doug Phillips, Gary DeMar, George Grant, Jeff Myers, and many others. Some of those who endorse CollegePlus! are Doug Phillips, Tim Echols, R.C. Sproul, Jr., Jeff Myers, Andrew Pudewa, Mary Pride, and others.

For more information, go to their website @ www.collegeplus.org.



SERVICES AVAILABLE

Christian Midwife/Homebirth Service—Contact **Marianne Manley**, R.N., Certified Nurse-Midwife (and homeschooling mom) @ (858) 273-2049.

Licensed Midwife—Professional Midwife, serving homebirth families. Contact **Celesta Rannisi** @ (619) 443-0165.

Childbirth Educator, Birth & Post-partum Doula—**Sherri Jockell** has over 25 years of experience and will travel to your home. She lives in the Guatay area. Call her @ (619) 473-8155.

Need Help With Cleaning??

Let It Shine!

Claudia Conover will help you with housecleaning, house sitting, pet care, laundry, windows, interior painting, or shuttle service. She is in the Oceanside area. Call her @ (760) 687-6193 or e-mail @ danielconover@aol.com.

Christian Realtors:

Greater Inland Empire—Call Linda Critelli @ Rancon Real Estate. (951) 852-2038 or www.critelli-makingithappen.com.

Low Cost Computer Support

Having problems with your home or office PC? Visit www.iselvaggio.com or call Loren Selvaggio (father of GCS student) at (760) 458-1290 for high quality IT support solutions at affordable rates. 20% of all services will be donated back to Grace Christian Schools.

Twelve:6 Photography

Affordable photography for all occasions: weddings, engagements, private parties, seniors, headshots, family portraits--anything you want to remember forever. Call us at (760) 500-2274 or e-mail Brooke McDoubal at brookeamcdoubal@gmail.com to schedule your holiday photos today! (We don't charge for the originals, cds included with every sitting. Prints also available.)

Inexpensive Lab Work Available



If you need a throat culture for strep, blood tests, Pap smear, or urinalysis or culture done inexpensively, contact Marianne Manley, RN, CNM (and homeschool mom) @ (858) 273-2049.



On our Grace Christian Schools website (gracechristianschools.com) is now a link to over 4000 colleges and universities in North America. There you can find demographics, numbers of students, majors offered, costs, etc. Give it a try!

Need Community Service Hours??

The San Diego Blood Bank needs volunteers. You can contact **Noemi Pena** @ (619) 400-8202 or call the San Diego Blood Bank for information.



Events to Remember this Month

Field Trips--

MONTHLY EVENTS

Wednesday, November 4th @ 9:15--San Diego Symphony
November 6th, 9-12—Law Enforcement presentation @ Tabernacle Christian Academy

Wednesday, November 11th—Grace Office closed for
Veteran's Day

November 23rd-27th—Grace Office closed for the ACSI Convention and
Thanksgiving Holidays

COMING EVENTS

Wednesday, December 2nd @ 10am—Creation & Earth History Museum in
Santee

Wednesday, December 2nd @ 9am—Reuben H. Fleet Museum & IMAX Theater
February 9th—Scripps Aquarium

**DON'T FORGET TO SAVE YOUR BOX TOPS FOR
GRACE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS! THANKS!**