



Dear Members, Friends, and Family of Grace Baptist,

2020 has been a year unlike any year in recent memory. Even in the midst of all this craziness; changed church services, canceled events, and many other things, we have been blessed to see our magnificent God at work! We (the Elders at Grace) would like to highlight a few things that happened at your church this year.

#### *Solar Electricity*

Way back when 2020 began, we were discussing entering into a contract with a third party to install solar panels on our facility in order to reduce our electricity costs. This project was completed and is currently up and running. It is saving us money now and will continue to save us money in the future.

#### *Live Streaming Church Services*

Our live stream online service was definitely born out of necessity this year. When you can't attend in person on a Sunday morning you can now join us online. What a blessing it has been to so many.

#### *Pandemic Missionary Relief*

Our Global Outreach Team became aware of missionaries that Grace supports who had lost support due to the Pandemic. They let the congregation know of this financial need and the people of Grace responded overwhelmingly by giving over \$4,000 that was distributed to our missionaries. Praise Jesus!

#### *Homeless Shower Station*

Central Coast Rescue Mission along with the United Way has a trailer that has a portable, self-contained shower station. They park this trailer at different locations around the city where those in need can take a shower. They approached the Elder Board and asked if they could park the shower station in our parking lot one day a week. We were happy to approve this request and several members of Grace help with this ministry.

#### *Navajo Nation Delivery*

One of the cancelled events this year was our annual youth mission trip to the Navajo Nation. Pastor James learned that, as a result of the strict lock down in New Mexico, many Navajo Nation residents were without basic necessities. Pastor James put out a request to the congregation to drop off items at the church. He and Tiffany then drove to the Navajo Nation and donated these much needed items. Thank you for your generosity!

### *Youth Ministry*

Pastor James has kept the Youth Ministries going through this Pandemic even though some events have needed to be canceled and/or changed. For example: Kickback was moved from Lopez Bible Camp to our church parking lot this year. Pastor James brought a special music artist, Temitope, for this event and we enjoyed a beautiful worship service in the parking lot.

### *AWANA*

The Awana leaders had to adapt and change their plans for Awana this year. Thank you to the Giorgi's for helping us "Bug-Out"! (If you don't know what that means ask Randy) Meeting outdoors twice a month, including an affordable pizza dinner, and even movies for parents who are staying on site, have made for a successful Fall Awana season. Praise the Lord!

### *Refinancing Church Loan*

This year we were required to refinance our church mortgage. Thanks to the faithfulness of our regular givers the refinancing went smoothly with no problems and our interest rate was significantly reduced.

### *Giving*

Back when this whole pandemic started and we stopped our regular Sunday morning services, we were not sure how this would affect giving. The government was offering money through the Payment Protection Plan, and the Elders discussed whether Grace should take it. After much prayer and discussion, the Elders chose not to take this government money. Still, after the decision was made, we wondered if we would have enough income to get us through the year. We are so happy to report that the people of Grace have continued to give freely and the church is finishing the year in the black. Praise Jesus!

There are so many other things that could be highlighted, including but not limited to; Children's Ministry (thank you Michelle and Paula), online teaching (thank you Pastor Greg and Pastor James), and church services that have been held indoors and outdoors and indoors! Thank you to all the volunteers that have set up and torn down each Sunday and to our worship team that has been amazingly flexible through it all. So many things to be thankful for.

2020 has been a year like none of us could have anticipated, we as a church body can reflect and know that God had it under control. Let us remember and reflect on the words from Isaiah 46:9-10, "remember the former things of old; for I am God, and there is none other; I am God and there is none like me, declaring the end from the beginning and from ancient times things not yet done, saying, 'My counsel shall stand, and I will accomplish all my purpose'".

Lastly we want to thank Mike Jones and Russ Lycan for their time of service on the Elder Board. Both have served 6 years and, as required by our church constitution, are taking at least 1 year off. As they leave we welcome two new Elders, Ken George and Mark Clayton to the board.

Your Elder Board prays you have a God glorifying 2021. Blessings to you all!

Mike Jones  
Carl Hathaway  
Russ Lycan  
Benji Magness  
Rob Grindy  
Rob Wright