



*August 19, 2018*

# IN THE **Spotlight**

**Breaking Records:** Brother Woodrow James' 15 year old son, Owen James, swims for the Veterans Park Summer league specializing in the breast-stroke. This summer, the relay team, with Owens, broke a 28 year record. This is not the only time Owen has broken records. At age 13, Owen broke a 32 year record and it stands today. Keep swimming Owen!

- **Ladies Day Retreat: The 1st Annual Dale City Ladies Retreat, October 11-14, 2018 in Intercourse, PA.** We will be collecting monies every Sunday for those interested in the Bike Tour, Amish dinner (Tour & Dinner -\$69.00; Dinner Only- \$49.00).

Registration fee: \$40.00 (covers T-shirts & survival snacks)

POC: *Sis. Lori Stevenson or Sis. Roslyn Correia.*

- **Charles Town Church of Christ: 6th Annual Ladies Day.**

“Breathe!”

Guest Speaker: Linda Norris

September 29, 2018, registration: 8:30 - 9:00 am

1587 Old Country Club Road, Charles Town, WV 25414

- **Mount Vernon Church of Christ Annual Ladies Day;**  
“Strengthen Your Sister” Luke 22:31-32  
October 27, 2018

8607 Jeff Todd Way, Alexandria, VA. 22309

- **Westside Church of Christ: SPARK, Polishing the Pulpit Program**

A program intended primarily for strengthening the Church. Classes of interest for all members of the church.

November 3-7, 2018

1705 Starview Drive, Salem VA. 24153

Must Register at “[spark.polishingthepulpit.com](http://spark.polishingthepulpit.com)”

- **Gail Flemons:** If you or someone you know is adept at creating floral arrangements, please contact me. Sister Deborah Reeves is in need of someone with those skill sets.

- **Need Volunteers:** If you have a special skill which can benefit the church and you can dedicate some time working at the church building, please let one of the Elders know. There is much to be done in order to keep the building and lawn looking presentable to ourselves and to visitors. Some skill sets needed are; lawn-care, gardening, inventory and organizing, minor electrical, light plumbing and lifting and moving boxes, etc.

If you have teaching skills, please see Brother Bellamy or Sister Flemons.



# From the Shepherd's Desk

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In my study of the scriptures, I came across this excerpt on Grace and wish to share it with you. I pray it gives you a deeper understanding of Grace as it has me.

## Grow In Grace

When we talk of grace, the questions that might come to mind are; how deep is it? How long? Does it have a timeframe? What does it do? What is Grace? From Genesis to Revelation we encounter this word Grace. In definition it simply means unmerited favor but in application it is deeper than our imagination.

The Apostle Peter in conclusion to his epistle urges us to “grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.” This indicates that although God gives the initial dose of grace, it is all up to us to put an effort to grow the seed. When a seed is kept in a bottle, it remains a seed but when put in the soil and given the right conditions, it blossoms and multiplies.

You grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ by study of His word, meditation of the word and of course fellowshiping with others who may impart more in you. Grace remember as stated above is unmerited favor! It however does not mean you can abuse it. Grace used correctly opens doors, it brings more blessings and bestows honor upon the carrier of it. Those who choose to grow in it give themselves an opportunity to enjoy the best that God gives. This brings glory and honour to God as others observe your life.

Refuse to stumble as the challenges of life come, continue to meditate on His word. His grace will raise you up above those monumental challenges and as you sit with the Lord on high you will be just an observer. Personal praise and worship brings growth in grace, fellowship with Him in the word and prayer brings growth in grace.

Grace is a license to live life in abundance and bring glory to our Creator. A choice to grow in grace is a choice to partner with Him. I pray for you today that you make a choice to grow in grace and in the knowledge of Him!

Declare this,

Thank you Father for the seed of grace. I make a choice to grow in grace and in your knowledge today. Amen

But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen. (2 Peter 3:18)

Rufus Flemons, Elder