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City Lights

December, 2008

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Support Level: 71%

Hello friends and family! Thank you so much for praying for the us over the last several weeks. I can't believe this Sunday will our 10th week since our opening service; it does not seem like it has been that long at all! I guess I will be saying that even when our 10th year rolls around too =) Please take some time to read the following update to better uphold our ministry in prayer. Prayer requests and pictures follow the updates.

**Upcoming Christmas Outreach:**

This Sunday Bethel Baptist Church of Sellersville, PA is going to bring a portion of their choir and minister to our people through the Christmas Cantata "The Gift of a Lifetime." Please pray that the Lord will use this outreach. I truly look forward to proclaiming the Gospel that Sunday! We have done quite a bit in our community to get the word out for this event:

- A mailing is on the way (*pray that it gets there in time*) to 30,000 households. That represents about 100,000 people within less than a mile from where we meet to worship.
- Our church sign which is actually a little billboard on Queens Blvd has a Gospel message (Is 9:6) as well as an invitation to this event. Queens Blvd is affectionately named the 'Boulevard of Death' because of the number of accidents due to the tens of thousands of drivers and pedestrians that team it each day. We pray this will be a message of life on the Blvd of death =).
- The Daily News is going to highlight our church in "Faith in the City" which comes out each Sunday. The Daily News has a large circulation and Grace Baptist Church will be highlighted in the Queens edition. This will be in the paper this Sunday and it mentions the Cantata as an upcoming event.

As you know many people would come to a Christmas program before they would attend a normal worship service. Please pray that the Lord will use this to get his message of salvation to many of our neighbors. Pray that people will be saved through this Gospel proclamation. All these efforts are worthless if God does not use them.

**Church Update**

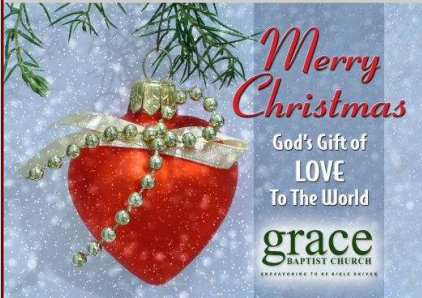
I want to briefly mention how the Lord has worked the past couple of months in our services. We have several people from the neighborhood that still come faithfully. It is really encouraging to see the Lord grow our core group. I will name a few countries: Dominican Republic, Korea, Jamaica, Nambibia, Philippines, Trinidad, Zambia and America. What a blessing to see people glorifying the Lord from all these different countries. We pray that He will continue and increase this number.

Please pray for us as we follow up on visitors. Pray for the salvation of some that have come whom we are still not sure about. Please pray for others in the community that have a heart for God's Word and need a local church to build up and be built up.



*"That the Gentiles might glorify God for His mercy" Romans 15:9*

*“For a **Child** will be born to us,  
a Son will be given to us;  
And His Name will be called  
Wonderful Counselor,  
Mighty God, Eternal Father,  
Prince of Peace.”*



**Grace Baptist Church**

Sunday Worship—10:30 am  
Kew Forest School on Union Tpke.  
Christmas Cantata “The Gift of a Lifetime”  
Sunday December 14th—1:00 pm  
[www.nycgrace.org](http://www.nycgrace.org)

**Our Queens Blvd Sign**



One outreach to our community was to deliver Thanksgiving baskets of food and groceries to needy families.



We have kept at least one ‘southern tradition.’ We shake hands while the piano plays. (Hand sanitizer is available in the back)

**Youngest Attendee**



We praise the Lord for the birth of Felicity Joy Brackbill! The Lord gave mommy and daughter a safe and healthy delivery. Felicity was born on November 4th at 1:22 pm. She weighed 7lbs and 1oz and was 20 inches long.

As many of you know John finished his MDiv at BJU this past May and moved up to help with the Church plant with a desire to plant a church in NYC in the future. They had to trust God while transitioning through some huge life changes in employment, environment, and ministry during the middle of a pregnancy. We are excited to see how the Lord has honored their faith and provided John with a great job to provide for the needs of his family.

**Richmond Family**

A brief note about our family. All is well. Hannah (5) is enjoying Kindergarten at home. Lydia is nearly 3 and very inquisitive; she keeps herself busy talking to spoons and any other little thing she can imagine as a little being. Charlotte is always smiles and is at the cruising stage (9 months). Sarah stays very busy at Grace and will be speaking at Bethel Baptist ladies fellowship this month (Brooklyn).



Please continue to pray for the Lord’s hand on our family. We want so much to raise a godly seed for His glory in this dark city. We know He will.

**Prayer Requests**

- Pray for people to be reached through the Christmas Cantata outreach.
- Pray for the continued growth of the core group of Grace. We are praying that this group will be able to grow to take on the ministry expenses and be self-supporting as early as possible.
- Please pray that the Lord will continue to use our two home Bible studies for evangelistic outreach in the neighborhood.
- Please pray for wisdom as we develop church procedures and programs that the Lord will enable us to make disciples of the nations for His glory.
- That the Lord will provide helpers in the ministry who will be able to be a part of our core group.
- That the Lord would help Tim with Spanish study.
- That we will be faithful in our time with the Lord and family.



We are thankful for all of the set up and take down help we have.



Home Bible study friends (Above)



Our back yard jail (Right)

*“That the Gentiles might glorify God for His mercy” Romans 15:9*