

Sept 4, 2020

Dear Grace of Christ Family,

As we begin to enter a new season, we are going to kick things off with a Fall Sermon Series called "The Homecoming." Here is a glimpse into what to expect:

On Sunday, Sept 20, we plan to gather together for an outdoor worship experience at 10am. There are some limitations, but discussions are going on right now to make it a safe and joyous occasion. We will practice social distancing and follow all the safety guidelines in place for Yakima, including wearing masks as required. You will need to let us know that you will be attending by filling out the [online reservations form](#) beginning Sept 6 at noon - reservations are required.

As we focus on COMMUNITY LIFE this Fall, we are Re-Launching and Renaming what we are calling COMMUNITY LIFE Groups. Groups will begin September 27th, and you can sign-up below or through your current Life Group leaders. This will be an all-church, 10-week small group experience. Each group will be going through a book called "**AHA: The God Moment that Changes Everything.**" It is based upon the story of the Prodigal Son, as he finds his way home. We want to provide a place where everyone feels at home, part of the family, surrounded by those who want to love and care for each other during these days. During the ten weeks, Sunday mornings will also focus on that familiar parable of Jesus.

In order for us to create enough COMMUNITY LIFE Groups, we need leaders. If you are currently in a group, or leading a group, please consider having your group do this 10week session with the entire church. If you are interested in being a leader of a new group, please contact Curt McFarland: curt@yakimagrace.com, and/or note your desire below. There will be training.

As part of our focus on Community Life, ministry to children and youth is going to look different. It takes a Church to raise a child by supporting, loving, serving and coming alongside parents, grandparents, children and youth. Melissa Gray, Director of Family Ministries, is putting a team together to create an innovative vision. She may be calling you. However, if this is something you feel called to, you can also contact

Melissa: melissa@yakimagrace.com

Ali Hildebrand, our Youth Director is also looking for adults to help care for students in a Small Group-based, relationally-motivated, ministry. The youth in our church and community need adults investing in them, meeting with

them one-on-one or in a small group, sharing life and faith together. Students need know that they are not alone during these times. So, again, contact her before she contacts you: ali@yakimagrace.com.

These are exciting times as we begin to see the opportunity to come together as a Church in tangible and virtual ways. Hang in there. God has all of this in His capable hands. "'For I know the plans I have for you,' declares the Lord, 'plans to prosper you, and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.'" (Jeremiah 29.11)

Because of Christ, and in His Grace,
Pastor Bill