BIBLE SWEETHEARTS

Matching Game

Connect the guys on the left to their sweethearts on the right.

1.	ADAM _____	A.	SARAH
2.	JOSEPH _____	B.	NAOMI
3.	SAMSON _____	C.	REBECKAH
4.	ABRAHAM _____	D.	RACHEL
5.	ZACHARIAS_____	E.	JEZEBEL
6.	BOAZ _____	F.	SAPPHIRA
7.	URIAH _____	G.	DRUSILLA
8.	NABAL _____	H.	EVE
9.	JACOB _____	I.	MARY
10.	AHAB _____	J.	DELILAH
11.	FELIX _____	K.	ABIGAIL
12.	HEBER _____	L.	BATHSHEBA
13.	ISAAC _____	M.	RUTH
14.	ANANIAS _____	N.	JAEL
15.	ELIMELECH ___	O.	ELISABETH

Coming up this month:

1 **Monday – Bonnie Blankets Morning at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.**

3 **Wednesday - Men's Bible Study begins at 7:00 p.m. in E-115.** Contact: Pastor Bill at 354-4321, ext. 14.

3 **Wednesday – Grace Resurrection Easter Choir practice begins at 7:00 p.m. in the Choir Room.** Contact: Pastor Dave at 354-4321, ext. 15.

6 **Saturday - PrimeTimers No-Host Breakfast is at 8:30 a.m. at Dutch Mother's Restaurant.**

7 **Sunday - Super Fellowship Parties begin at 3:00 p.m.** Men will meet in the Fellowship Hall and women and girls are in the Youth Room. See bulletin for the cost.

12 **Friday - PrimeTimer's Valentine Dinner at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.** Cost is $6 per person.

12-15 **Friday-Monday - *the element* (High School) Snow Blast Retreat.** Reserve your spot by January 31 and the cost is $135. Starting February 1, the cost is $148.

17 **Wednesday - Parents' Night sponsored by Awana at 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Room.**

27 **Saturday - Men's Breakfast at Fairway Café at 7:30 a.m.** Plan to order off the menu.



February 2010

Special Events This Month:

1	Bonnie Blanket Morning
3	Men's Bible Study Begins
3	Easter Choir Practice Begins
6	PrimeTimers No-host Breakfast
7	Super Fellowship Parties
12	PrimeTimers Valentine Dinner
12-15	High School Snow Blast Retreat
17	Parenting Seminar
27	Men's Breakfast

Details on page 4.

Grace Baptist Fellowship
338 North Park Street
Lynden, WA 98264
360.354.4321
www.gbf-online.org

SAVOR THE FLAVOR

A lesson from the label

Ingredient.

That's what the label on the jar said. Not the usual *plural* form of the word, ingredients. Amazingly, there was but one item listed in the space usually populated by multi-syllabic mumbo jumbo that only a chemist could appreciate. In straightforward easy words, the manufacturer identified its contents: 100% pure maple syrup. No glucuronolactone, not one milligram of xantham gum. Just tasty syrup, courtesy of some contented Canadian maples, intent on blessing a pancake or waffle coming soon to a platter near you.

There is something attractive about this simple purity, sadly lacking in our world of mixed motives and half-truths. How often do we find ourselves longing for the next world where goodness and transparency are the standard. Unfortunately, this clever poem too often reflects reality:

> To dwell above with saints we love,
> That will be grace and glory.
> But to dwell below with saints we know,
> Now that's another story!

It would be wonderful if the Church had just one ingredient: 100% pure followers of Jesus. In theory, that is true; belief in the Lord Jesus Christ is the sole (and *soul*) requirement for membership in His Church. But living with "those we know" informs us that there are other ingredients in our fellowship.

This should not surprise us. The Apostle Paul likens the Church to a body with many parts, and each having its significant role (1 Corinthians 12:14-20). The point is that the body can function only because its members are so diverse.

This same truth is illustrated by an ingredients label. Every person, like an additive, makes a unique contribution to the Church's overall taste and nutritional value. Some folks add spice and zest to the flavor. Others make the food more colorful. And some help preserve it for future generations to enjoy.

However, the ingredients must be skillfully blended for maximum enjoyment and benefit. Too much spice makes the food unacceptable to most palates. (Think 5 star curry.) A serving composed of nothing but preservatives would not be very appetizing either.

Here's the lesson I learned from reading the ingredients label. As we work to build this community of believers called Grace Baptist Fellowship, its important to remember that God has added every member to our church. He has a special purpose for their inclusion in "the mix," and He has a special purpose for you. Our relationship must go beyond acceptance; it calls for "blending" (which may involve some bending, but that's another metaphor).

Just chew on that for awhile.

Bon appetite and blessings, too!

Pastor Dave

Service Times

SUNDAY
Worship.....8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School .....9:45 a.m.
Evening Electives. .....6:00 p.m.
High School Youth .....6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY
Awana .....6:45 p.m.
Prayer Meeting .....7:00 p.m.
Junior High Youth.....7:00 p.m.

Ministry Contacts

PASTORAL STAFF
Senior Pastor..... Delaine Bailey
Worship and Arts.....Dave Dunkin
Adult Ministries.....Bill Cummins
Student Ministries..... Brian Stuart

ELDERS
Arvid Hagen 318-0329
Howard Heppner 354-5486
Jeff McSorley 354-4974
Don Vanden Berg.....354-5633

DEACONS
John Alsum.....354-3896
Karl Bode 354-2253
Phil Bogaard 354-5249
Alan MacPhee.....354-2407
Darryl Vander Yacht 354-4650

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY COORDINATOR
..... Julie Homan

Church Humor



In his first attempt to be romantic, Adam merely states the obvious.

Welcome to our New Members

The following individuals were warmly received into our church membership at the annual business meeting on Sunday, January 17.



David and Lois Bright



Lindsay and Chad VanderYacht



Carole Hanson



Helyce, Sandra and Ken Hayward



Cheri Foster



Rose and Randy Larsen



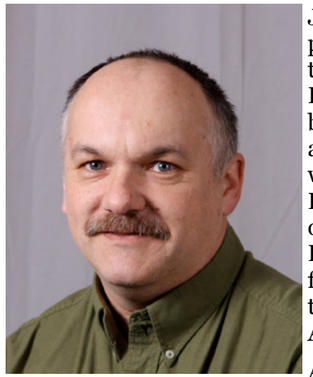
Steve and Rena Rudy

Spotlight on Leadership

New Deacon: John Alsum

". . . whoever wants to be great among you must be your servant . . . just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve and give His life for many."
Matthew 20:26-27

Some people lead. Some people serve. At least, that's how it works in secular society. But if you want to be a leader in Christian society, you must first be a servant. Our new deacon John Alsum is just such a servant/leader.



John was born in Bellingham to godly parents, Jim and RoseMarie Alsum. At the tender age of six, they led John to the Lord in their living room. John was later baptized in the old Awana building, here at Grace, when he was ten. While John was in eighth grade, the family moved to Lynden where his father was part owner of the old Alsum & Bode furniture store. By high school John was working for his father at the store. It was during this time that John first felt called to serve as an Awana leader.

After Cindy and John were married, they had three sons in rapid succession, Jess, Jacob, and James. Then there was a brief hiatus, after which their daughter, Brittney, was born. Yet even while raising their active family and working at various jobs in Whatcom County—not the least of which was assuming a partnership role in the family business when his father retired and, more recently, working at Service Pro—John continued his gifts of service to the faith community. He was a deacon at Nooksack Valley Baptist, as well as here at Grace. He continued as a leader in Awana, ultimately advancing to director and then commander. Nowadays you'll find John working in the theater room at Grace Place, making popcorn for the kids, watching movies with them, and then asking follow-up questions.

But like all good leaders, John's godly influence is most apparent at home. For example, like John, Cindy is involved in Awana, serving in the T&T ministry. His children share their enthusiasm for service, as well. Jess serves in the sound ministry at Grace; Brittney and James are first and second-year junior high leaders; and Jacob is an Awana leader.

Yet even with such an impressive resume, John's heart remains humble. When asked what he considers his most important ministry, he said hospitality, that he just *loves* serving. And what would he like to see accomplished during his tenure as a deacon here at Grace? He said that he hopes to encourage people to get more involved, to minister to others as they've been ministered to; that, indeed, it is truly more blessed to *give* than to *receive*.

As Scripture teaches us, a good leader leads by example. John Alsum is just such a man. May we all follow his godly example and share his servant's heart.

— Maureen Danielson



Congratulations to our
Awana Bible Quiz Team!

Book One—Third Place:
(pictured below with Coach Patti Assink)
Aaron Doucet
Grant VanderYacht
Lucas Assink

Book Two—Second Place:
Allison Vandenberg
Carson Westrich
Jordan Brockmeyer

Book Four—First Place:
Kippy Mock
Jake Kroontje

Quiz Champs:
Jordan Brockmeyer
Kippy Mock

