

SUMMER 2021

GRACE MONTHLY

"For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come"

1 Timothy 4:8



Making the Best of our Summer Time

by Paul Kim

We've finally reached summer and I'm sure many people are excited to spend a whole 2 months free from school. Summer is a great opportunity to pursue a lot of things as we're free of the stress of studying and gain a lot of free time - but I think we often forget how we should spend our time. In previous summers I've always come to the end of it and regretted how little I got done in that long period. Similarly, over the past year I've felt that I lost so much time during the pandemic. I think this summer could be the turning point for many of us. What first came to my mind for me, though, was getting that summer body and improving myself to surprise everyone in the new year. However, a certain spiritual activity which we did during student discipleship one week stuck with me. This passage helped me focus on the importance of pursuing more than just physical goals.

In 1 Timothy 4:6-16 Paul talks about how to become a good servant of Christ and gives guidance to Timothy about how he could become a good leader of the church he now leads. He talks about how bodily training is of some value, but that godliness is of value in every way (v. 8). I find that many parts of me lack godliness, especially in generosity. With the pandemic I feel that I've been so focused on myself that I've failed to think of others who are also suffering through the same pandemic. I hope that this summer God will provide ways through which I can learn to have a giving heart and enjoy giving to others. It is so easy to fall into irreverent things, but I believe if we show that we genuinely want to pursue godliness, then God will help us.

Paul also says that we toil and strive because we have our hope set on God (v. 10). This reminds me to trust that God will continue to provide for us this summer. However difficult this pandemic season might still be, I believe this summer can be a wonderful time to recover our spiritual life and allow God to renew our focus on Him once again.

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JUNE HIGHLIGHTS

CELEBRATING GCC'S 18TH ANNIVERSARY

GCC celebrated its 18th anniversary on Sunday, June 6th. Praise God for His faithfulness and love towards our church community! As a body of Christ, may we continue to grow in His likeness and exercise our vision to be a church that transforms the world in the name of Jesus.

VIRTUAL SUMMER MISSIONS

For summer missions this year, CLAY and GEM Youth set out to serve Duncan and Lummi in a special way. CLAY Youth held a Duncan fundraiser on Saturday, June 19th where students and leaders dropped off donations and wrote letters for the Cowichan Grace Church members. They were able to raise more than \$1,000 in support of Duncan's summer programs. Praise God! The funds and letters were delivered to missionary Joey on June 28th.

GEM Youth held a 2021 Summer Missions gathering for Lummi on Friday June 25th on Zoom. This meeting consisted of a devotional period on 2 Corinthians 8:1-15, followed by an information time on how the summer missions is taking place this year. This summer, GEM Youth is planning on creating support letters to raise funds for the children and youth programs on the Lummi reservation, as well as the Lummi missionaries such as the Sproull family. The **drop-off date for the funds** collected is set to be on **July 17th**. In addition, on **July 9th** there will be a **Zoom gathering to meet the missionaries** where leaders and students will have the opportunity to connect with them as well as some of the people within the Lummi reservation.

FRIDAY YOUTH NIGHT

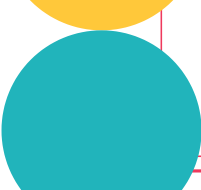
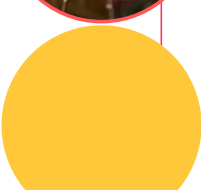
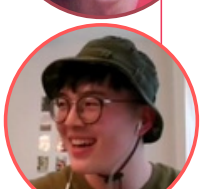
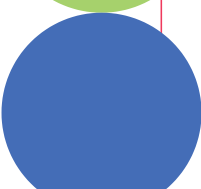
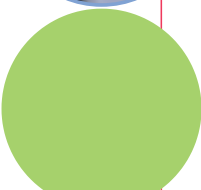
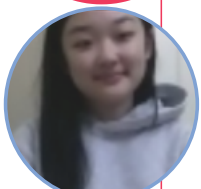
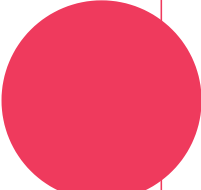
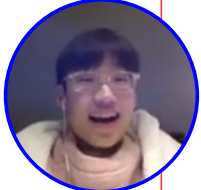
On Friday, June 11th, GEM Youth held their last Friday Youth Night for this academic year! This night consisted of covering the final part of the "Meaningful Relationships" series where students and leaders were able to engage in a time of personal devotion through 3 Bible passages. This was a time for GEM Youth to listen to the Holy Spirit and discover what had been revealed to them through each passage. Following this time of "listen and respond", students participated in a time of small group discussion that ended with coming up with ways to keep each other accountable in order to go deeper into God's Word together.

Though there are no Friday Youth Nights for the summer, small groups will continue to meet on Sundays!

MISSION UNSTOPPABLE



GCC held their annual Missions Week from June 1st to 5th this year. Missions night worship services were held from June 2-4, and on June 1st and 5th GCC members had the opportunity to meet with the missionaries on Zoom, where they heard them share about how they are serving in the country they have been commissioned to. There was also a time to pray for them in light of their ongoing ministry on the field. Let us remember to pray for these missionaries who are faithfully serving in different countries around the world, that God would strengthen them and expand their perspective to see the things that He sees.



Praise & Prayer

- **Praise** God for a successful end to this school year! It may have been a strange, unusual school year for many of us, but let us remember to **praise** God for keeping us healthy and guiding us through this tough and never-before-experienced school year.
- **Pray** for the graduating grade 12's. **Pray** that as they move onto university, they will discover new things about God and the great things that He has in store for them. For some, it may be an easy transition and for others, it may be very difficult. Please **pray** that no matter how difficult the transition may be, they will learn to depend on our Heavenly Father through it all.
- **Praise** God for giving us summer break to enjoy the sunny weather with our friends and loved ones. **Pray** for health and protection as we undergo a heat wave for the next while.
- We are all looking forward to a more "normal" summer this year. **Praise** God! **Pray** that despite our desires for all the worldly things, our passion for Christ would not die but rather flourish, and that we will grow an earnest heart to seek God. Let us also **pray** that this summer will be a time of renewal of our soul, body and mind, and that each student will get to strengthen their faith in Christ.
- Grace Youth will be holding their summer retreat from August 16-18th this year. **Pray** that the retreat will be a time of physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual restoration. **Pray** that students will encounter God in a powerful way in their time of worship, prayer, and sharing together.
- The Education ministries are planning to reopen for students and children starting in September. **Praise** God! Please **pray** for the pastors who are working on a reopening plan, that God would grant them wisdom on how to welcome students back for the new ministry year.
- **Praise** God for all of the leaders who have faithfully served in Grace Youth this past year! We are grateful for their perseverance and dedication to walk with the students through this challenging season. **Pray** that, as the recruitment for leaders for the next year begins, God will raise up servant-hearted leaders who will serve in Grace Youth and the other Education ministries to bless and grow the next generation.

Upcoming for Summer

july & august events

For the months of June to August, Grace Youth takes a break from regular Friday Youth Night gatherings. Make sure to join us at our Summer events!

JULY

9th **Lummi Summer Missions**
Meeting with the missionary
& Lummi residents on Zoom

17th **Lummi Fundraiser**
Collecting funds and
writing letters



AUGUST

16-18th

Grace Youth Summer Retreat
Registration period: July 18-Aug 1st

Events are subject to change. Make sure to keep up with our latest updates with your small group leader, on our website, Instagram, or Facebook!