

BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CENTER

1136 Baseline Road
Grand Island, New York www.bfcgi.org 716-773-3748

THE LORD'S DAY

December 4, 2016 8:30 AM & 10:15AM

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Organ Prelude Carol Dammann
Piano Wendy Baldwin
Announcements Ron Mock

MEDITATION

“Jonah Overboard” - Jonah 1:11-16 opposite page

Hymn 815 “Doxology”
Prayer and Scripture Reading Psalm 24
Hymns 247, 249 lighting 2nd candle to signify the city of Christ's birth Micah 5:2
Pastoral Prayer
Hymns 702, 704 followed by Communion and Hymn 34
Message RETURN FROM FAILURE John 21:15-19 Pastor Cal VanderMey
Hymn 426 “Blest Be the Tie that Binds” Benediction

THE MINISTRY OF MISSION

For the glory of God, Bible Fellowship Center is committed to spreading the Good News of salvation, equipping the believers, that they might become more Christ-like, worship God and enjoy Him forever.

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Youth Group Monday 6:30-8pm. Ages 8 and up
Monday night prayer meeting at 7pm
Tuesday Bible study: The book of Jude at 7pm - Pastor Cal
Wednesday Men's Bible study at 9:00am - Jim O'Rourke
Thursday precept class on Romans at 9:15am with Margaret Was
Ladies fellowship and prayer time Thursday at 10am-Elsa Peters
Adult Bible study Friday at 7pm - John Woodell leading
Ladies Luncheon Saturday at 12 noon

The offering box is located in the back of the sanctuary

BFC Multipurpose/Utility Building \$31,400 to complete-received \$31,490!!!

Praise the Lord it's paid for!!!

¹¹ Then they said to him, “What shall we do to you that the sea may be calm for us?”—for the sea was growing more tempestuous. ¹² And he said to them, “Pick me up and throw me into the sea; then the sea will become calm for you. For I know that this great tempest *is* because of me.” ¹³ Nevertheless the men rowed hard to return to land, but they could not, for the sea continued to grow more tempestuous against them. ¹⁴ Therefore they cried out to the LORD and said, “We pray, O LORD, please do not let us perish for this man's life, and do not charge us with innocent blood; for You, O LORD, have done as it pleased You.” ¹⁵ So they picked up Jonah and threw him into the sea, and the sea ceased from its raging. ¹⁶ Then the men feared the LORD exceedingly, and offered a sacrifice to the LORD and took vows.

While this scene in Jonah is unique in the Old Testament, it will be common in the life of Christ. Calming a tempestuous sea is found in each of the Gospels, and each time we see the power of Christ as God displayed over nature. In Bible Prophecy the tempestuous seas represent the nations that are slapping each other with great energy, and yet it is a worthless display of power.

Here in Jonah we see God's displeasure, and the crew wisely notes that Jonah must have done something really bad and yet they were all being punished. They ask Jonah what to do to bring calm to the sea. Jonah responds with resignation that they need simply to throw him overboard. They respond instead with their own attempts to save the ship by rowing harder. The storm became worse, and they pray that the LORD would deliver them. Finally, they realize that the LORD wants Jonah thrown overboard, and they ask that they not be charged with innocent blood, since this is what the Lord desired. The sea immediately calms, and the men fear the LORD more, even offering a sacrifice and taking vows. In spite of Jonah's failures and lack of interest in sharing the Word of God, the entire crew apparently becomes believers. The sacrifice would have been made after the ship arrived at a port. There is an emphasis in these verses on the LORD, the special Name of God given to Moses in Exodus 3:14—YHWH. Not meant to be pronounced, we still find the explanation—I AM THAT I AM to be so apt in expressing the eternal presence and power of God. This is the LORD who intervenes in matters of redemption. This is the LORD who specially chose a family—that of Abraham—to be His representative to the world. Jonah was a part of that family, and he joined the hundreds of thousands of other Israelites who failed in their task of bringing the Name of the LORD to the nations. Here we have the nations not only aware of that Name, but also believing in the God who bears that Name.

Choir practice will begin in Dec. Start warming up your voices!

Ladies Christmas luncheon is on Dec.10th at 12 noon.

Dress Rehearsal for Children's Christmas Program Dec 10th at 4pm

Children's Christmas Program Sunday Dec 11th at 4pm

Christmas Caroling Monday Dec. 12th bus leaves 6pm sharp!

Christmas Eve Candlelight and Carol service at 6pm.

Christmas Morning Sunday Service 10:15am Only

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Missions Corner: God continues to bless through the giving of the tooth paste

More was shipped to Mexico City this week!

Sunday messages are available online, CD or e-mail. See Bill Schultz