

The Grace Lutheran Vision Board met on Tuesday, November 8th, 2016 at Greg Ackerson's home. All board members were present along with Pastor Mark. A delicious meal was enjoyed along with always enjoyable conversation. The meeting then progressed into the living room where the group first discussed goals for the 2017 year. Here is a list of some the exciting ideas for next year:

- We are excited to think to the future as we begin to think about celebrating both Grace Lutheran Church's 50th Anniversary in September 2017, but also the 500th Anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation. We hope to incorporate an outreach to our neighbors as a way to say "Thank You" to them, along with working with other churches to further unity in the Love of One Risen Lord.
- As Free 2 B Grace ends next year, we think ahead to a new campaign for continued debt reduction (our mortgage keeps dropping!), finally dealing with the portables and parking lot and "upgrading" to things such as video cameras to stream services to the sick and shut in.
- Continued outreach to our friends we already serve in Uganda and Haiti

It is exciting to dream and plan!

Kate Morphew, Grace's Business Administrator, joined the group and the discussion turned to the budget. Kate, with assistance from Beth Clarkstrom, has done a wonderful job working towards a budget proposal. The group made great headway as we discussed issues, such as the new Overtime law that affects certain key staff members and how to accommodate this into the budget, and overall financially supporting the staff and growing programs while keeping the budget balanced. The group continues to pray over this matter and will continue the discussion next month. The budget will be presented in January to the congregation at the Congregational Meeting.

The meeting ended in a time of prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Jessie Crooks, Grace Lutheran Vision Board Secretary