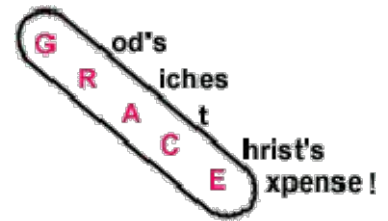


# The Youth Slate

*“From the fullness of His grace we have all received one blessing after another” ~John 1:16*



Did you get everything that you wanted for Christmas? Most of us always want more, even if we did get everything on our list. We love the joy of opening presents. We love to get gifts that show how much people care about us. We love it, because it is all about us. It is like it is Christmas all over again. I remember when I was younger, once Christmas was over I started looking forward to my birthday when I would receive more gifts! But the bible reminds us that we do not have to wait until our birthday to get more gifts. In fact the bible tells us that each day is like Christmas, where we are lavished with many gifts. As you see your tree (if it is still up), you can remember that underneath the tree used to be full; however, now it is empty. God continues giving us gifts when the tree is gone, and when everything seems empty—He gives us the gift of His grace, which saves us and gives us everlasting riches and life in heaven! So what exactly is this grace? Well, I always like to remember that it is the gift that keeps on giving—it is **God’s Riches At Christ’s Expense**.



*Pastor Steve*



**Middle School:** Be sure to join everyone upstairs for our opening and then start Grappling with the issues of faith through our Grapple Bible Study. We will be going ice skating on **Friday, January 8<sup>th</sup> at the Quad City Sports Center from 8:30-10:00pm**. Mark your calendars so that you can join in on the fun!

**High School:** High School Youth Group meets on Sundays, **4:30pm**, at Starbucks (53<sup>rd</sup> & Elmore). Our Bible Study is from the Book of Revelation, so join us as we learn more about what God has in store for our futures! We have two events this month. Our first is the **High School Lock in at UNI, January 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>**. This will **require a permission slip** and prior planning—if you want to go let Pastor Steve know! Our second event is Elevate, our joint high school activity. **Elevate is on Saturday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 7:00 pm** at Our Savior Lutheran Church. We will have a *great* speaker, games, and food so be sure to join us for the evening!

