

## A WORD FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

### THE OPPOSITE OF HARMONY

By: Rod Jackson

What is the opposite of harmony? Our theme for this school year at Grace is “One Voice...in Harmony” based on Romans 15:5-6. We’ve focused throughout this year on the harmony we can achieve together in Christ because of what Jesus has done for us. But what happens when there is no harmony? The dictionary says the opposite of harmony is disagreement or discord. But I think the opposite of harmony is really loneliness. When a family or a marriage or a group of friends lacks harmony and suffers from fractured relationships that means each individual is essentially on their own. And being all on your own is a lonely and isolating place to be. I think the loneliest I’ve ever been was when my wife and I were separated early in our marriage. The absence of harmony in our marriage made me feel very isolated and alone,

not just from my wife but other friends and family as well. During this Holy Week as we consider the path Jesus took to His sacrifice on the cross consider how lonely that walk must have been for him. The harmony He had with his disciples dissolved in those final hours – loyal Peter three times denied even knowing him. On the cross Jesus cried out “My God why have you forsaken me?” How lonely and abandoned Jesus must have felt during those final, terrible hours. We however can rejoice because the harmony we experience as brothers and sisters in Christ is only possible because of Jesus’ death on the cross and the beauty of an empty tomb. We anxiously await the celebration of Easter when we will say with great joy and harmony “He is Risen!”

#### WORDS TO LIVE BY

“Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all the day long.”

Psalms 25:5



## MEET OUR PRINCIPAL

Mr. Rodney Jackson

I have been blessed to serve as the Principal here at Grace for over a decade. Both of my children attend our school and it's been wonderful to watch them grow in so many ways during their years here. My wife Karen is a professor at Jacksonville University and tremendous supporter of the Grace ministry. Grace Lutheran School has strengthened me spiritually, deepened my knowledge of the world around me, and allowed me to develop lifelong friendships that I will always treasure.