

# WELCOME



If you are a first time visitor please fill out one of our **Information Cards** available at the Information Center or in the Sanctuary. We want to thank you for joining us today as we celebrate God's grace and goodness together. Please be sure to introduce yourself to us and thanks again for coming.

## TODAY:

This is the last Sunday of 2014 with the beginning of a New Year just a few days away. Because the year is about to come to an end, I have found myself reminiscing over the past 12 months. Together we have faced challenges and obstacles and through it all I can see that change and renewal are taking place in our midst. Thanks for your faithful attendance, prayer, fellowship, and giving. This is a new day at ROCC! We have so much to be thankful for and the message of Christmas is so true; God is with us!

**\*\*Patricia, Pastor Marco, Berenice, and myself express our gratitude to all for last week's Christmas Love Offering, Pastor Mills. \*\***

**Attention all YOUTH.... New Year, Kick Off...Friday, @ 7:00 PM, Jan. 2, 2015!**

**Wed. night Prayer Meeting is "SUSPENDED" until Jan. 14, at 7:00 PM.**



## JUST FOR KIDS

Our children join us for worship in the main Sanctuary until they are called to the altar area for prayer. They will then attend Sunday School and will be supervised by our capable workers. Their special Bible lesson will conclude at the same time as the adult service.

Nursery is also supervised and available when the children are dismissed from the sanctuary.

Parents please note that your child needs to be signed-in and signed-out every Sunday.

## MANNA



Most of us know the account that Jesus told about the Prodigal-Son (Luke 15). The parable is a focus on the abundant grace of God towards those who have godly sorrow leading to genuine repentance. God's grace is sufficient! Nevertheless there is what I call secondary lessons in the story that are worth noting.

One worthwhile lesson is to observe that both of the sons were lost. They both had spiritual-heart problems that needed healing and God's Grace was the answer for both. The younger son's problem was much more noticeable and out there compared with the hidden and obscure problem of the older son. The older son was filled with anger that his father would show mercy and plan a celebration at the home-coming of the reckless younger son. His lack of grace for others caused him to be filled with envy, selfishness, bitterness and anger towards his loving and forgiving father. ***"The older brother became angry... 'all these years I've been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders... But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!"*** (Luke 15: 29-30) The elder brother allowed his obedience and faithfulness to develop into a selfish-spirit of entitlement. We must always serve the Lord as with a ***"labour of love"***.

When we make it our goal to live in God's grace it gives us the capacity to celebrate and show grace to others. The Scriptures state ***"Mercy triumphs over judgment."*** (James 2: 13)

## F.Y.I.



**Your new offering envelopes for 2015 are available at the back of the sanctuary for pick up. If you don't have envelopes for giving but would like a personalized set please let us know.**

**New Window Blinds for the church have been ordered in our ongoing commitment to improve God's house. If you would like to contribute, above your regular tithes and offerings towards the cost of the new blinds and the new paint please indicate that on an offering envelope.**