

# GRACEPC NEWS

JANUARY 10, 2021

Grace Members and Friends,

**This Sunday I begin my stewardship sermon series entitled: United in Grace.** One cannot watch the news, troll Facebook or read Tweets without knowing how badly unity is needed. These sermons will step on your toes. They are stepping on mine already.

|        |              |                               |
|--------|--------------|-------------------------------|
| Jan 10 | Mark 1:4-11  | United in Grace               |
| Jan 17 | John 1:43-51 | United in Christ              |
| Jan 24 | Mark 1:14-20 | United in Purpose             |
| Jan 31 | Mark 1:21-28 | United Against a Common Enemy |
| Feb 7  | Mark 1:29-39 | United in Service             |

On the night before he died, Jesus prayed that we would be one as he and the Father are One (John 17:11). Knowing that is his will, I hope you will join in this important worship and work.

Watch for details next week on The Third Option study and discussion opportunities, both in person and online.

If you want to go wider and deeper, Grace Presbytery has two offerings to help heal our racial divide: The 21-Day Racial Equity Challenge and Race in America with Rev. Dr. Michael Waters. The 21-Day Challenge begins Monday, January 18. The Michael Waters event is a 5-week Zoom series taking place weekly on Thursday evenings beginning January 28. **The registration deadline to participate in these Presbytery events is Monday, January 11.**

## Here is my blessing for you this week:

May you take in with all Christians the extravagant dimensions of Christ's love. Reach out and experience the breadth! Test its length! Plumb the depths! Rise to the heights! Live full lives, full in the fullness of God (Ephesians 3:18-19 in The Message)

Your pastor and friend,

*Tracey*



Register: 21 Day Challenge



Register: Race in America

## STEWARDSHIP 2021



Our annual stewardship focus, "United in Grace," begins this Sunday. Our Session has budgeted for the coming year guided by our church mission and based on current and historic giving patterns. If you are able, please consider additional gifts to our capital campaign. See update below.

### Capital Campaign Update

**Thank you to our generous members and friends** who continue to give towards our capital campaign, especially during this long and difficult year. So far, we have replaced 21 air-conditioners and painted both inside and outside the CE building. All thermostats have also been replaced.

**There is more to be done.** Lighting in both buildings needs to be replaced with LED lights, and both the lighting and the audio/visual capabilities in the Sanctuary need to be repaired and upgraded. We are still researching options and receiving bids. We know the total will exceed \$60,000.

**We have good news! \$25,000.00 for a matching funds campaign** has just been offered by one of our generous givers who wishes to remain anonymous. John Moody has created a separate restricted funds account for this purpose: **1-810901**. We can give via check, noting in the memo the account or the purpose of the capital campaign, or give online via the website at [www.gracepc.org](http://www.gracepc.org). If you would like to give a gift with double the impact, this is your chance.

**May God bless your generosity to Grace Presbyterian Church!**



### Session Minutes

If you would like an electronic copy of the monthly session minutes, you will find them on the files tab in the Weekly Email Recipients Group. When you login to CCB, you will find your groups on the right side of the screen. Click on the group, and click on Files at the top.

## Are You Experiencing Pandemic Fatigue?

Are you feeling exhausted from all the disruptions to life brought on by the pandemic? Are you or someone you know struggling with challenges like . . .

- Isolation and loneliness;
- Anxiety over health;
- Grief due to many different kinds of losses;
- Tension from juggling work, childcare, and schooling;
- Financial strain or job loss;
- Uncertainty about the future;
- Other unexpected life challenges?



If so, you don't have to face it alone. Our Stephen Ministers are ready to listen, care, encourage, and provide emotional and spiritual support.

A Stephen Minister will meet with you privately—by phone, by video chat, or, if safely possible, in person—to offer care and support. It's free and completely confidential. For more information, call Mike Shaw 469-223-6813 or Carol Hogan 214-551-6177.

*"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28*

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Dear Friends and Family of GracePC,

It was with great joy and humility that I received your many kind words, thoughtful notes and generous love offering in recognition of my time on staff. I loved serving as both your Children's Director and Family Ministries Director over the years. Your support and encouragement were always felt and certainly made my "job" easier, as well. Your gifts to me in December were just another expression of that love and care. Thank you so very much.

In deep gratitude,  
Kelly Raam

## Women's Thursday Night Bible Study

The Thursday Night Women's Bible Study has been richly blessed! We have been meeting together for five and a half years now! During this time, there have been women who have come and gone, some to moves, some to busy schedules, and some to changes in their lives. Each and every woman who has touched our group is so amazing!

We study together, with the help of study guides which are chosen by the group and homework is involved! Even when someone cannot finish the lesson, each is encouraged to come participate, as each input or idea is teaching all of us! Attendance, is not mandatory, but is encouraged – we all have busy lives and sometimes it is important to take care of those demands, too! We have become a covenant group who study, share our concerns and praises, and pray together for each other! It is been my great joy to facilitate this amazing group of faithful women both from Grace and outside Grace church!

If you are feeling the need/want to take part in an evening Women's Bible study, we would be happy to welcome you! Our next study will begin in January, using the Following God Character Series, Life Principles from Paul's Co-workers. If you are feeling led to participate in this study, please, let me know! You may email me at [jl.ect@verizon.net](mailto:jl.ect@verizon.net) to share your interest! Below are some comments by those who are involved in our study! I hope that you enjoy their thoughts and comments!

Blessings always!

Lynn McCoy

The Thursday Night Women's Bible Study group is full of Christian ladies that I am proud to be associated with. We each can give input on the lessons that we study. Our leader, Lynn McCoy, is a strong Christian which helps me want to be more like her. Everyone gives input during the studies that we all discuss. The group has many Christian women that I long to be like. We study well and care for each other. I would help any of these Christian sisters in their time of need. We are a great group which is open to all Christian women who want to come study with us.

Barbara

**My faith has steadily grown and is now strong enough to leap over confusing stumbling blocks when I can't find a way around them. I used to get so tangled up in the "weeds" that I couldn't see the path before me. Now, I am way more patient and trust our Lord to lead me. This is a huge growth spurt for me and shows me how wonderfully kind and patient God is.**  
**Leslie**

## Family Ministry News

### Youth Live

**When:** Sundays from 4:00-4:45pm

**Where:** Grace PC (Outside by volleyball courts)

**Who can come:** ANY Preteen/Youth (5th-12th grade)  
– So Bring Friends

**Format:** Large Group/Small Group with current small group leaders,  
Games, Food, and Fun!

**Masks are required to attend.**

For questions contact Pastor Cara at [cara@gracepc.org](mailto:cara@gracepc.org).

**Youth Live will return on January 17, from 3 - 4:30PM, with a blowout afternoon of 9 square in the air, ultimate frisbee, corn hole, and who doesn't want to make their own snowman? All 5th-12th graders are invited, and their friends are welcome too!**

### Confirmation

Our 2021 Confirmation class begins this Sunday, January 10 at 11AM. The class will meet in the narthex. If you are a high schooler, and have not been confirmed, but would like to learn about the confirmation process, join us this Sunday at 10:45AM.

### Children's SS Schedule

Children's Sunday School will be meeting at Grace.

**K-4th, will meet on Jan. 3, 2021, in Wheelus Hall from 11AM-12PM**

**Preschool, K, & 1st will have online SS from 11-11:30AM**

Watch your text or email for additional information.



Children's Sunday School kicked off the new year with an Epiphany party!

Family Ministries thanks Bill Urech for making the new Family Ministry Resource Library. This is a portable library which will house books and resources that families can check out to read.



## Save the Dates

January 31 - Annual Meeting, location TBD

The annual meeting is a called congregational meeting to conduct the business of the church. All members are encouraged to attend. We will be hearing a summary of 2020 from Session, electing the slate of new officers proposed by our nominating committee, looking at our budget, among other business. Look for the agenda and slate of officers in next week's newsletter.

February 7 - Officer Ordination and Installation

During worship on Feb. 7, we will ordain and install our new class of officers.

## Thank You's

A big thank you goes out to Anita Priest and her team for all of the hours spent putting up and taking down all of our Advent decorations in the Sanctuary, as well as keeping the poinsettias watered. It was beautiful.

Another thank you goes out to our 3 A/V volunteers, Deann Collins, Roy Davis, and Mark Kinney. These three work every Saturday (and other times as well) to ensure we are able to stream our worship into your homes every Sunday.

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## Sanctuary Choir Virtual Rehearsals

Our Sanctuary Choir is resuming their virtual rehearsals on Wednesday evenings, beginning next Wed., Jan. 13, and we look forward to making music together in 2021.

We always welcome guests, so please join us anytime you like. Just contact Michael King ([michael@gracepc.org](mailto:michael@gracepc.org)), and he would be glad to get you connected.



# Calendar of Events

## JANUARY

- 9 Quilt Ministry Meeting, 9AM (CE204/205)
- 9 Word of Life SS, 10:15AM (Zoom)
- 10 Visions of Faith SS, 9AM (Zoom)
- 10 Worship Service, 9:30AM (live-streaming online).
- 10 Worship Service, 11AM (Sanctuary (TBD), live-streaming online)
- 10 Children's Sunday school, 11AM
- 10 Confirmation Class, 11AM
- 10 Session Meeting, 1:30PM, (Zoom)
- 10 Prayer Team Meeting, 4PM, (Zoom)
- 13 Trinity Sunday School, 7PM, (Zoom)
- 16 Visions of Faith SS, 9AM (Zoom)
- 17 Worship Service, 9:30AM (live-streaming online).
- 17 Worship Service, 11AM (Sanctuary (TBD), live-streaming online)
- 17 Children's Sunday school, 11AM
- 17 Confirmation Class, 11AM
- 17 Youth Live, 3-4:30PM
- 17 Prayer Team Meeting, 4PM, (Zoom)
- 18 Church Office is Closed for the MLK holiday
- 18 Cancer Support Group, 3PM, (Narthex & Zoom)
- 19 Committee Meeting Night, 7PM
- 20 Career Transitions Support Group, 9AM, (Zoom)
- 23 Trinity Sunday School, 7PM, (Zoom)
- 24 Visions of Faith SS, 9AM (Zoom)
- 24 Worship Service, 9:30AM (live-streaming online).
- 24 Worship Service, 11AM (Sanctuary (TBD), live-streaming online)
- 24 Children's Sunday school, 11AM
- 24 Confirmation Class, 11AM
- 24 Youth Bell Rehearsals Resume
- 24 Youth Live, 4PM
- 26 Deacon Meeting, 7PM, (Zoom)
- 27 Trinity Sunday School, 7PM, (Zoom)



For security purposes, our weekly newsletter will only share zoom codes for worship events. We will post zoom codes for all other events below.

Online Web Information/Codes:

**Visions of Faith SS**, 9-10AM , is beginning a new study of the Belhar Confession starting Sunday, January 3rd. The study will be led by Julie Haworth. (Zoom) meeting id: 896 1970 3148; Password: 743463

**Monday Men's Group**, 7:15-9PM, (Webex) Contact Gary Hivnor or Mike Venter to join.

**Trinity SS**, Wednesdays, working through the Old Testament 7PM (Zoom) meeting id 833 1086 7480 password: 068929.

**Friday Morning Men's Bible Study**, 7-8AM (Zoom),

Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/7367348174> or

Zoom meeting id: 832 051 1362; no password

**Daily Bible Devotional**, 2PM (Zoom) meeting id: 344 149 061, password: 496077

**Cancer Support Group**, 1st and 3rd Mondays, 3PM Narthex and Zoom

meeting id: 811 3242 9314, password: 574820

**Sanctuary Choir Gatherings**, Wednesdays, 7PM, (Zoom) meeting id: 840 2980 0350

**Word of Life SS**, Saturdays, focus on books, people and themes of the Bible, 10:15AM (Zoom) meeting id: 898 4610 3748, password: 952401

**Career Transitions Support Group**, 1st & 3rd Wednesdays, 9:00AM Meeting id: 883 7732 2718, password: 139584

**Thursday Evening Women's Bible Study**, 7PM Meeting id: 819 6817 4210, password: 213304

**Prayer Team**, Sunday, 4:00PM, Meeting id: 852 0303 1618, password 171528