

# OCTOBER 17, 2021

# GRACE NEWS

Grace members and friends,

At the end of July in response to increasing new COVID-19 case numbers in Collin Co. putting us “in the red” on CovidActNow.com, your Session updated our campus mask policy, asking all individuals to wear masks in worship or in close proximity to children and youth anywhere indoors. Thank you for your diligence in this matter. Covid numbers are falling again, and we are “out of the red” on CovidActNow.org. Therefore, Session voted to return the mask policy to where it was before the end of July: **Masks are optional indoors for vaccinated adults at adult only gatherings. We will all continue to wear masks around children and youth indoors** until such time as they can be vaccinated. Thank you for your cooperation and love for our children and youth.

*The Story* sermon this week examines the Golden Calf Incident (Exodus 32). In Exodus 20, the people received God’s commandments. But by chapter 32, they are already breaking commandment #2: “You shall not make for yourself an idol . . . you shall not bow down to it or worship it.”

We pass quickly over the second commandment because we don’t make idols of wood or stone or gold to worship anymore. We are much too intelligent now to worship anything that is made by human hands or imaginations, or are we? Idolatry is holding any person, value, activity, or idea higher than God. Are there things or ideas or people we hold higher than God today? Join us for worship at 9:00am or 11:05am in the Youth Room or online.

Your pastor and friend,

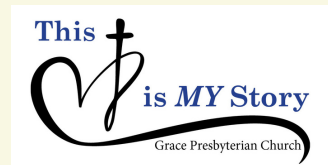
*Tracey*

# Get Involved at Grace!

## Stewardship 2022

Our 2022 stewardship effort is back to its fall timeslot and in conjunction with our journey through The Story.

Starting this Sunday and for the next 4 weeks, you will hear some of the stories of Grace during worship.



We want to hear your story as well! You can submit your story (250 words or less) through our website at [www.gracepc.org/mystory](http://www.gracepc.org/mystory) or write it on one of the My Story cards available at worship or in the church office.

As you reflect on your story, we encourage you to consider how you are a vital part of Grace's story with **your gifts of time, talent, energy, monetary resources and love**. You should receive a pledge card in the mail this week. **Sunday, November 7**, is the day we will dedicate our pledges for 2022 in worship.

Visit [www.gracepc.org/mystory](http://www.gracepc.org/mystory) to read or submit stories, make a pledge, or learn more.

**Thank you for your prayerful and generous commitment!**

## Love Offering

At the September Session meeting, Session approved the collection of a Love Offering as a way of thanking the church staff for going above and beyond during the 2021 year and the challenges of Covid-19 and the Sanctuary reconstruction. If you would like to contribute, you may do so through CCB (indicating Love Offering in the drop down options) or a check to the church with Staff Love Offering in the memo. To receive a tax deduction, an individual cannot be designated. The Personnel Committee will work with Pastor Tracey on the allocation of funds received and plan to distribute those funds before Thanksgiving.

## Pastor Tracey's Installation Service - Nov. 14, 4PM

Save the date and make plans to attend Pastor Tracey's Installation service on Sunday, Nov. 14 at 4PM. In lieu of the 3 services in one day, we will have a combined worship service at 11:05 that Sunday morning.

## Trunk or Treat - Oct. 31, 5-6PM

Trunk or Treat will be on Sunday, October 31st from 5-6pm at Grace PC. If you would like to participate this year by decorating a trunk and passing out candy, check your Connection Card in worship or click on the newsletter link, Trunk or Treat, and fill out our form. This event is one of our largest outreach events each year, so please consider participating.

## **Property Gardening Workday - Oct. 23**

The property committee is having a property workday on Saturday, October 23, beginning at 9AM. We want to prepare our beds and landscaping for fall and in preparation for our return to worship in the Sanctuary. If you would like to participate, please check your connection card. We have limited gardening equipment here at Grace, so please bring your own. Snacks and water will be provided.

## **All Saints' Remembrance Luncheon November 7, 2021 at 12:15pm in Wheelus Hall**

We have been learning through our weekly studies and Pastor Tracey's messages that each of us has a part to play in The Story.

Once a year we have set aside time to honor those who have impacted our own stories and have passed on to Glory.

Due to the pandemic we missed the opportunity last year to recognize the lives of those who were so important to us. We welcome everyone to join us in a celebration of their story, regardless of when it occurred.

Please come to share the life of your loved one through an article or two that reflects special meaning, a photo and a food item that reminds you of them—this is your "ticket"! This event is being sponsored by your Stephen Ministers and Pastor Tracey.

Click the link in the newsletter email to sign up, so we can plan for enough seating. If you have questions, contact:

Carol Hogan (carol.hogan17@gmail.com) 214-551-6177 or

Mike Shaw (broncosrbest@verizon.net) 469-223-6813

## **River of Time**

You are invited to experience the RIVER OF TIME art installation at the Crow Museum of Asian Art, 2010 Flora Street, Dallas. The museum is open Tuesdays – Sundays, 11am – 5pm, and the work is on exhibit from October 27 – November 28, 2021. Created by celebrated artist Pam Nelson in collaboration with Faith & Grief, the work incorporates ribbons adorned with names of loved ones remembered at the annual Faith & Grief Memorial Arch. The museum has offered to open on All Saints Day, Monday November 1, 11am-5pm, just for this exhibit to offer you time to remember your loved ones and reflect on the RIVER OF TIME. Learn more at [faithandgrief.org/art](http://faithandgrief.org/art)

## Exultation Fundraiser Continues!



For 25+ years, Exultation Choir has sold PIES to raise money for their summer mission tour. Sadly, our pie distributor is no longer in business. However, the good news is, Exultation is ready to sell you something else you crave...COFFEE!! Don't like coffee? Teas are also available with this fundraiser and even gourmet popcorn.

Exultation is selling coffee from DRIVEN... a Minnesota coffee roastery with flavors ranging from French Roast to Chocolate Turtle to Highlander Grogg and everywhere in-between. Ground, whole-bean, and K-cups are all available. Driven Coffee Roasters is providing us with sustainably-sourced, small-batch roasted, 100% Arabica, roasted-to-order coffee. In-person sales from individual members is preferred, but online options are also available.



This is Exultation's first project to help support their June 2022 Mission Tour to California. Please contact an Exultation member today to order some delicious coffee! Also, mark your calendar now for GRACE LIVE, which will take place on February 19, 2022.

To be connected with an Exultation member to help support, call the church office and ask to speak with Michael or Paul, or send an email: [michael@gracepc.org](mailto:michael@gracepc.org) or [paul@gracepc.org](mailto:paul@gracepc.org).



The sale will end on October 24! Thank you in advance for your support!

## Quilt Sale & Auction, Oct. 31 & Nov. 7 in the narthex

QUILT SALE  
SUN. OCT. 31 & SUN. NOV. 7  
9-12:30 IN GPC NARTHEX

Holiday items, QUILTS, crafts, fall decor, gifts, and items for baby for sale!

*quilt sale*

*quilt sale*

Proceeds go to support the Quilt Ministry fund, which provides quilts to those who are grieving. They also contribute to other local community organizations with additional funds.

GracePC

CASH, CHECK, AND CREDIT CARD WILL BE ACCEPTED

# Music Ministry at Grace

The GPC Music Ministry is so excited to resume all ensemble rehearsals. Please consider joining us!

## Choirs

Sanctuary Choir/Festival Singers  
Adult choir  
Wednesdays, 7:00 – 8:15pm, Wheelus  
Hall  
Michael King, Director

Voices in Praise (VIPs)  
Children's choir for grades 2 – 5  
Sundays, 4:30 – 5:15pm, Room  
CE210  
Hannah Allen, Director

Exultation Choir  
Youth choir for grades 6 – 12  
Sundays, 4:00 – 5:15pm, Youth  
Room  
Michael King, Director

Cherub Choir  
Children's choir for PK through 1st  
grade  
Sundays, 4:00 – 4:30pm, Room CE210  
Hannah Allen, Director

## Handbells

Grace Notes  
Advanced adult handbells  
Sundays, 6:00 – 7:15pm, Wheelus  
Hall  
Michael King, Director

Agape  
Beginner adult handbells  
Sundays, 4:00 – 5:15pm, Room CE204-  
205  
Director tba

Credo  
High school handbells  
Sundays, 2:45 – 4:00pm, Wheelus  
Hall  
Katie Schnittker, Director

Tintinnabulators  
Middle school handbells  
Sundays, 3:00 – 4:00pm, Room CE204-  
205  
Hannah Allen, Director

Feel free to contact any of the ensemble directors for more info – we would love to have you!

Hannah Allen – Children's Choirs, Tintinnabulators  
hannah@gracepc.org

Michael King – Exultation, Grace Notes, Sanctuary Choir  
michael@gracepc.org

Katie Schnittker – Credo Director  
katie.schnittker@gmail.com

# Want to Learn?

## Children's Fall Sunday School & Godly Play Schedule

All Sunday School classes meet at 10AM.  
Godly Play will be dismissed from worship  
during the 11:05AM service.

Nursery	CE102
Preschool SS	CE105
Kindergarten - 2nd grade SS	CE210
3rd - 5th grade SS	CE214
Godly Play	CE215
	(Godly Play Worship Center)
Worship Club (older elementary students)	CE214

## Weekly Bible Study Opportunities

M/W mixed, 2-3:30PM. meeting id: 858 0155 4559, password: 775494	Zoom
Mon. PM Men's, 7-9PM	MB4
Tues. AM Women, 10-11:30AM.	MB2
Wed. AM Women of Wonder, 10:30AM-12PM	MB4
Thurs. PM Women's, 7-9PM.	MB2
Fri. AM Men's, 6:45-8AM	MB4
1st & 3rd Sat. Men's, 8-10AM.	MB4

## Youth Fall Sunday School Schedule

Middle School SS      Grace Place  
High School SS      Grace Place  
*Confirmation will begin in Jan.*

For questions contact Pastor Cara at  
cara@gracepc.org.

## Adult Sunday School

Grace currently has 5 adult Sunday classes  
meeting onsite: classes will meet at 10AM.  
Until we re-open the Sanctuary, adult classes  
can be found in the following rooms:

Trinity	MB2
Word of Life	MB4
Visions of Faith	CE213
Bible Boomers	Wheelus Hall

The above 4 classes will be using "The Story"  
study guide during Pastor Tracey's 31 week  
series.

Koinonia      CE204/205  
Koinonia will begin a new 4 week study this  
Sunday, Oct. 17, on the history of the  
Reformation, led by Derek Rutherford.

All the classes are multi-generational, and all  
are welcome.

# Youth Ministry Updates

- Youth Live
  - 5:15-5:30 Snacks
  - 5:30-6:30PM Youth group
- November 7 - Youth Dinner  
5:15PM (Youth Room)
- November 13th - HS Altitude Trampoline Park  
7:30-9:30PM
- December 19th - Youth Christmas Party, 6-8PM  
At the Alves' home

## Schedule Change This Sunday!!

This Sunday, October 17, Youth Live will begin at 4PM. Due to no Exultation rehearsal, we are moving up our schedule. Pastor Cara as planned a pumpkin cookie decorating contest so bring your creativity to win a prize.

## Text for Youth Information

If you would like to receive our weekly youth communications, text @gpcym to the number 81010 and get connected and informed about upcoming youth events.

## Youth Food

Parents, we know your students like to eat, so we are planning on having food at many of our youth events. This year we would like to have breakfast items (bagels, kolaches, donuts, etc) at Sunday School, youth dinners, and snacks at Youth Live. We are asking that you help us cover the cost of these special foods by paying \$25 per student per semester. To pay for your child/children, click on the Youth Food link in the newsletter email, or access the form on the Signup section of the website.

## Medical/Liability/Photo Release Form

It is that time of year again. **If you have a child or youth that wants to participate in any Grace activity, including choirs, Sunday school, fellowship events..., you must have a signed medical/liability and publicity release form on file with Grace.**

To print off a form, click on the Liability form link in the newsletter email, fill out the form (one for each child), and either email it to stefanie@gracepc.org or drop it in Stefanie's mailbox in the staff hallway. A link to the form can also be found on the website at [gracepc.org>about>forms](http://gracepc.org/about/forms). Thanks for your help.

# Everything Else

## Offering Envelopes

To place your order for a box of 2022 offering envelopes, please contact John Moody, Director of Finance, [john@gracepc.org](mailto:john@gracepc.org) or 469-429-6808 no later than Sunday, October 24.

## Have you checked out the Parenting Resource Library?

Parents, are you feeling big emotions at your house with school starting? If you are, check out the parent resource library at the back of the worship space for resources. For the next few weeks there will be books that you can read with your child to help them process a wide variety of emotions. If there is a topic that you would like resources for, please let Pastor Cara know at [cara@gracepc.org](mailto:cara@gracepc.org).

## 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.

## Sanctuary Flowers

If you would like to order Sanctuary flowers in memory of a loved one, or in celebration of a special event, go to our website, [gracepc.org](http://gracepc.org), and click on the Sanctuary flower box.

## Name Tags

Pastor Tracey would like us to wear our nametags to worship. She, as well as any new members we receive will be able to put names with faces much faster and easier if we are all wearing our name tags. If you need a new name tag, the cost is \$9. You can either check your Connection Card, or email Kris Turner at [kris@gracepc.org](mailto:kris@gracepc.org).

## Property Updates

Our flooring contractor has been finishing up baseboards and transition pieces this week. In addition, they have installed the new flooring between the east and west narthex doors.

Our lighting contractors are working diligently toward us being able to return to worship in the Sanctuary on October 31.

Please pray that we do not encounter any unforeseen problems as we work towards our return to our beautiful Sanctuary.



To my church family,

It has been my privilege to serve as volunteer Director of Missions at Grace PC, but after nearly six years of doing so, I will be stepping back from this role effective Sunday, October 24th, as I move on to another position leading an international mission ministry.

With the help of many spirit-led servants, we successfully refined the scope of the mission ministry by adopting our 4-H Mission Focus, while still preserving longtime traditions of service, and with God's blessing, were able to maintain covenant commitments to our ministry partners through the most difficult of times. I believe our greatest accomplishment, though, was becoming a more significant part of Christian formation in the church by consistently offering opportunities for our members to grow in their faith through service while changing the lives of those they serve.

I plan to remain on the Mission Committee to facilitate this transition and will continue to be part of the servant-spirit that is alive and well at Grace PC.

Dear God, please keep us ever mindful of the needs of others, lest we forget that we were created in Your Son to do good works, which You have already prepared for us to do. Amen.

In His Service, always,  
Dwight Nichols



Grace Presbyterian Church  
[www.gracepc.org](http://www.gracepc.org)



# Calendar of Events

## OCTOBER

- 16 Men's Saturday AM Bible Study, 8AM (MB4)
- 16 Quilt Ministry Meeting, 9AM (CE204/205)
- 16 Gotta Have Fun Game Night, 6:30PM (Grace Place)
- 17 Contemporary Worship, 9AM (Youth Room)
- 17 Children/Youth/Adult Christian Education, 10AM
- 17 Traditional Worship, 11:05AM (Youth Room)
- 17 Worship Club, 11:05AM (CE214)
- 17 Godly Play, dismissal during worship, (Godly Play Worship Center)
- 17 Credo Rehearsal, 2:45PM (Wheelus Hall)
- 17 Tintinnabulator Rehearsal, 3PM (CE204/205)
- 17 Youth Live, 4PM (Youth Room)
- 17 Cherub Choir Rehearsal, 4PM (CE210)
- 17 Voices in Praise Rehearsal, 4:30PM (CE210)
- 17 Grace Notes Rehearsal, 6PM (Wheelus Hall)
- 18 The Story bible study, 12PM (MB4)
- 18 Cancer Support Group Meeting, 3PM (MB4 & Zoom)
- 18 Men's Monday PM Bible Study, 7PM (MB4)
- 19 Tuesday AM Women's Bible Study, 10AM (MB2)
- 19 Property Committee Meeting, 7PM (Workroom)
- 19 Finance Committee Meeting, 7PM (MB2)
- 20 Career Transitions Support Group, 9AM (MB2)
- 20 Women of Wonder Bible Study, 10:30AM (MB4)
- 21 Sit & Stitch, 10AM (MB2)
- 21 Thursday PM Women's Bible Study, 7PM (MB2)
- 22 Men's Friday AM Bible Study, 6:45AM (MB4)
- 23 Property Workday, 9AM
- 23 Pilgrimage Ultreya, 10:30AM, (Wheelus Hall)
- 24 Contemporary Worship, 9AM (Youth Room)
- 24 Children/Youth/Adult Christian Education, 10AM
- 24 Traditional Worship, 11:05AM (Youth Room)
- 24 Worship Club, 11:05AM (CE214)
- 24 Godly Play, dismissal during worship, (Godly Play Worship Center)
- 24 Credo Rehearsal, 2:45PM (Wheelus Hall)
- 24 Tintinnabulator Rehearsal, 3PM (CE204/205)
- 24 Exultation Rehearsal, 4PM (Youth Room)
- 24 Prayer Group, 4PM (MB2)
- 24 Youth Live, 5:15PM (Youth Room)
- 24 Grace Notes Rehearsal, 6PM (Wheelus Hall)