

# GRACE NEWS

JANUARY 29 | 2023

## Stewardship Dedication Sunday

Our stewardship effort – ***Extraordinary Grace: Where to from Here?*** – wraps up this Sunday with dedication of our pledges during worship.



**Extraordinary  
Grace:**

*Where To From Here?*

It's a new year, full of opportunity for all of us, and it's a new year in the life of our church as well. Behind us are a pandemic, major physical plant rebuilding and refurbishing, coupled with major rebuilding of our staff and leadership. Our church has continued to benefit from *Extraordinary Grace*. Now, *Where to From Here?*

While maintaining what God has given us, our leadership believes we must increase our focus outward, reaching out to the community and attending to those in need both spiritually and physically. This month, we are embarking on a program with Perkins Seminary to better equip members to tell our story to the community. We continue to discuss and discern how God is calling us to be obedient to Jesus' command to help the hungry, sick, imprisoned, and strangers. We believe God is calling us to do wonderful, unexpected, and impactful service in the name of Jesus. To achieve this, we need your time, talents, and financial gifts.

Please prayerfully consider what you can commit to our work at GPC. No gift is too small. Jesus praised a widow who contributed two very small copper coins (Mark 12:41-44). Please, look carefully into your heart and determine what you can contribute.

You have several options for completing your pledge:

- Attend in-person worship and complete a pledge card there.
- Complete and mail back the pledge card you received in our mailing earlier in January.
- Email the particulars of your pledge to John Moody, director of finance, at [john@gracepc.org](mailto:john@gracepc.org)

All pledges are confidential. Should your circumstances change during the year, feel free to communicate with John to amend the pledge.

Yours in Christ,

Your Stewardship Committee

*Gail & Brian Balbinot, co-chairs; Suzanne Mattison, Tom Brooks, the Rev. Dr. Tracey Davenport*

# Get Involved at Grace!

## Meeting Jesus at the Table

Our Lenten study this year is the book Meeting Jesus at the Table, a study of the meals Jesus shared, the stories about banquets and dinner parties he told, and the miracles in which food was the miracle. “This is the joyful feast of the people of God! People will come from north and south and from east and west to sit at table in the kingdom of God.” The author reminds us that these words are often used to invite us to the Lord’s table. This table stretches around the world and across time. At this table, there is always room for whoever shows up, and there is always enough for all to be fed. Breaking and sharing bread has been at the heart of Christian worship since the beginning, and remains so today.

As part of this study, Grace members and friends who don’t know each other, or don’t know each other well, are invited to eat a meal together during Lent (February 24-April 1). If you would like to host a meal at your home for 6-10 people, click the link in the email and fill out the form. We will contact you with further instructions.

## Grief Group

The Grief Group at Grace has now been helping people for over 10 years and we will be starting our next group on April 11. We meet in person from 7PM to 9PM. We have expanded it to 8 weeks and we utilize curriculum from a local organization, Faith & Grief Ministries. This is an extension of Stephen Ministry at Grace. There is a link in the newsletter email, you may check your Connection card, or you may contact Mike Shaw at [brncorsbest@verizon.net](mailto:brncorsbest@verizon.net) (469-223-6813) or Carol Hogan at [carol.hogan17@gmail.com](mailto:carol.hogan17@gmail.com) (214-551-6177) for more information. Module topics are shown on the webpage and by selecting the link.

<https://www.faithandgrief.org/griefworkshop/>



## **Exultation Fundraiser Continues!**

Thank you to everyone who has supported the Exultation Choir by buying pies and coffee in the past. We still do not have a pie distributor, but our COFFEE SALE is ready to go! Don't like coffee? Teas are also available with this fundraiser and even gourmet popcorn and honey.

The coffee we are selling is 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 2023 Mission Tour to Philadelphia and New York City. Please contact an Exultation member today to order some delicious coffee! Also, mark your calendar now for GRACE LIVE, which will take place on March 25.

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 began on January 22 and ends on February 5! Thank you for your support!

## **Grace Live Volunteers Needed!**

We are looking for volunteers to help with our Grace Live 2023 committee. We are responsible for soliciting donations, organizing donations, following up on details, and helping with the auction the day of the show (Saturday, March 25th). If you are interested in finding out more or joining our committee, please email Teri Waite at [teriwaite85@gmail.com](mailto:teriwaite85@gmail.com), click on the link in the newsletter email, or check the box on your connection card and someone will be in touch. It's a great way to get involved and to help a fabulous group of students.

## **Grace Live - Save the Date**

Mark your calendars Grace Live 2023 to take place on Saturday, March 25th right here at GPC. More information will be coming in the next few weeks!



## Blue Angels Bible Study Group

**Blue Angels (Monday noon study group) begins our new study Monday, January 23, 12:00–1:30pm.** We are using *Companions in Christ*, a small group transforming experience in spiritual formation. This series explores spiritual practices and invites participants to develop daily patterns that open their lives to a deepening relationship with God and one another. This study includes some reading and exercises throughout the week. Anyone is welcome to join us. Talk to Pastor Tracey for more information.

## GPC Trip to Branson, MO

GPC is offering a trip to Branson, Missouri in May to see the production **QUEEN ESTHER** at the Sight & Sound Theatre, which produces epic biblical dramas year after year. The dates are May 17 – 20, 2023. The cost will be \$675 per person (double occupancy), which includes all transportation from Plano, comfortable hotel for 3 nights, 6 meals, and two shows, including *Queen Esther* and the Showboat Branson Belle. There will also be time for fellowship, shopping, and an extra show or attraction if you like. To receive more information, please check your connection card this Sunday or call the church office.

**If you have not filled out the trip interest form for the upcoming trips, you must do so asap. The form will close next week.**

## Young Adult Updates

Thanks to all who attended our January gathering. The fellowship and thought-provoking discussion were so enjoyable. Please mark your calendars for the upcoming February gatherings. Our next fellowship event will be February 5 at 12:30 p.m. for lunch at The Moreland's, 1805 Belgium Drive, Plano, Texas.

On February 19, we will meet for lunch at 12:30pm at Kenny's East Coast Pizza at 4701 W. Park Blvd #101.

If you are interested in more information regarding participating in or serving as a member of the Young Adult Ministry, please contact Bonnie Moreland at 972-523-1266 for more information regarding the opportunity.





# Everything Else

## Building Use

As a reminder, if you would like to use our building, you are required to contact Kris Turner at [kris@gracepc.org](mailto:kris@gracepc.org) or at 469-429-6804 to verify availability, and to have the event added to the church calendar.

## 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.

## Services for a Former Charter Member

Clark Kibler, a former charter member of Grace, and the father of former member Amy Thomas, passed away on January 10. Services for Clark will be held on Saturday, February 11, at 2PM at Memorial Presbyterian Church, Fredericksburg. (607 N Milam St, Fredericksburg, Tx, 78624) Please keep the Kibler and Thomas families in your prayers.

# Thank You

Thank you to all who gave up their Saturday morning last week to serve at Minnie's Food Pantry and Boutique. If you would like to be on our next Minnie's workday team, watch your connection card for the next opportunity.



# Children's Ministry Updates

## Text for Children's Information

If you would like to receive our weekly children's communications, text @gpc-kids to the number 81010 and get connected and informed about upcoming children's events.

## Youth Ministry Updates

Hello Parents, I have some really exciting youth ministry schedule updates.

### **THIS SUNDAY, January 29th! NEW BIBLE STUDY for boys at Grace Place!**

Beginning this Sunday immediately following choir will be a new opportunity for teen boys. Bible study will be from 5:15-6:00pm and will be looking at the Life of Jesus. This Sunday will be the introductory class with a more in-depth schedule to follow. All Middle School and High School boys are invited. Following bible study students are invited to come to Youth Live or return home.

### **Sunday, February 12th - No Youth Live or Music Rehearsals - Superbowl Sunday!**

**Sunday, February 19th - 11:00am-2:30pm - Service Project @ Northpark Presbyterian Church** - We will leave right after Sunday School and return in time for bells in the afternoon if your student is in bell choir. We will be going to Northpark Presbyterian Church to tour their greenhouse that they use to help distribute food through their reverse food truck ministry. We will also be working in the greenhouse, so you may want to have your student dress in layers in case they get hot. We will eat lunch at Northpark Mall Food Court before going to Northpark. All youth are invited to attend and bring friends. Please send money for your child to purchase lunch. Please e-mail me at [cara@gracepc.org](mailto:cara@gracepc.org) or check the connection card if your student would like to attend. Also if you would like to drive for this event, send me an e-mail and let me know. We will not have Youth Live in the afternoon after choir.

Sunday, February 26th - 11:00am-2:30pm - Interfaith Field Trip - During the fall semester the youth completed a very basic interfaith study during Youth Live. As part of learning to respect other traditions we will be going on a field trip to explore other faiths, by meeting with other faith leaders and touring other places of worship. We will leave right after Sunday School and return in time for bells in the afternoon if your student is in bell choir. All youth are invited to attend and bring friends. Please send money for your student to purchase lunch. Please e-mail me at [cara@gracepc.org](mailto:cara@gracepc.org) or check the connection card if your student would like to attend. Also if you would like to drive for this event, send me an e-mail and let me know. We will not have Youth Live in the afternoon after choir.

**March 5th - No Youth Live - Spring Break!**

**March 12th - 5:15pm-8:30pm - Spring Break Party at Pinstack!** We will leave GPC at 5:15pm (or immediately following choir if your student is in Exultation) and go to Pinstack from 5:30-7:30ish. Following Pinstack we will return to GPC for pizza and sardines, 7:30-8:30. Cost is \$10. All youth are invited to attend and bring friends. Sign-ups for this event will begin in February.

**March 19th - Regular Schedule**

**March 26th - No Youth Live! - Sabbath time after Grace Live!**

If you have any questions about any of these events please do not hesitate to reach out.

## **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.



# Want to Learn?

## Children's 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 - K SS	CE211*
1st - 3rd grade SS	CE214
4th - 5th grade SS	CE216
Godly Play	CE213
<i>(Godly Play Worship Center)</i>	

## Adult Sunday School

Grace currently has 5 adult Sunday classes meeting onsite. Classes begin at 10AM in the following rooms:

Trinity	MB2
Word of Life	MB4
Visions of Faith	MB3
Bible Boomers	Wheelus Hall
Koinonia	CE204/205

**There is no adult Sunday School classes this week due to combined worship at 10am followed immediately by our annual congregational meeting.**

## Youth Sunday School Schedule

MS/HS SS	CE203*
Confirmation Class	CE200

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

## Weekly Bible Study Opportunities

M/W mixed, 2-3:30PM	Zoom
meeting id: 858 0155 4559, password: 775494	
Mon. Blue Angels, 12PM	MB4
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 Generations of Grace 7-9PM	MB2
Fri. AM Men's, 7-8AM	MB4
Every Other Sat. Men's Bible Study 8-10AM	MB4





# Want to Sing or Ring?

The GPC Music Ministry rehearsal schedule is below.

Please consider joining us!

## Choirs

Sanctuary Adult Choir  
Wednesdays, 7:00 – 8:15pm  
Sanctuary  
Michael King, Director

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

Voices in Praise (VIPs)  
Children's choir for grades 2 – 5  
Sundays, 5:15 – 6pm  
Room CE215  
Hannah Allen, Director

Cherub Choir  
Children's choir for PK thru 1st gd.  
Sundays, 4:30 – 5pm,  
Room CE215  
Hannah Allen, Director

## Handbells

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

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

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

Carillon Ringers  
Children (Grades 3-5) handbells  
Sundays, 4:30 – 5:15pm  
Room CE 204/205  
Michelle Rutherford, 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 (MS handbells)  
hannah@gracepc.org

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

Katie Schnittker – Credo Director (HS handbells)  
katie.schnittker@gmail.com

Michelle Rutherford – Carillon Ringers Director (Children handbells)  
mmrutherford1@sbcglobal.net



# Calendar

## JANUARY

- 28 Testimony HQ Informational Meeting, 12:30PM (Youth Room)
- 29 Combined Worship, 10AM
- 29 Godly Play is available (Godly Play Worship Center, (CE213))
- 29 Annual Congregational Meeting, 11AM (Sanctuary)
- 29 Childcare for Annual Meeting, 11AM (CE105)
- 29 Officer Lunch, 12PM (Youth Room)
- 29 Office Training, 1PM (Youth Room)
- 29 Credo Rehearsal, 2:35PM (Sanctuary)
- 29 Tintinnabulators Rehearsal, 2:45PM (CE204/205)
- 29 Exultation Rehearsal, 4PM (Sanctuary)
- 29 Prayer Team Meeting, 4PM (MB2)
- 29 Carillon Ringers Rehearsal, 4:30PM (CE204/205)
- 29 Cherub Choir Rehearsal, 4:30PM (CE210)
- 29 Voices in Praise Choir Rehearsal, 5:15PM (CE210)
- 29 Youth Live, 5:15PM (Youth Room)
- 29 Youth Boy's Bible Study, 5:15PM (Grace Place)
- 29 Grace Notes Rehearsal, 6PM (Sanctuary)
- 30 Blue Angels Bible Study, 12PM (MB2)
- 30 The Journey, 6:30PM (MB3)
- 30 Men's Monday PM Bible Study, 7PM (MB4)
- 31 Tuesday AM Women's Bible Study, 10AM (MB2)
- 31 Deacon Meeting, 7PM (CE204/205)

## FEBRUARY

- 1 Career Transitions Support Group, 9AM (MB2)
- 1 Women of Wonder Bible Study, 10:30AM (MB2)
- 1 ESL & Citizenship classes, 5:15PM
- 1 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, 7PM (Sanctuary)
- 2 Generations of Grace Women's Bible Study, 7PM (MB3)
- 3 Men's Friday AM Bible Study, 7AM (MB2)
- 4 Men's Saturday AM Bible Study, 8AM (MB2)
- 4 NTPP Council Meeting, 10AM (Wheelus Hall)
- 4 Gotta Have Fun Game Night, 6:30PM (Grace Place)

