




GRACE NEWS


SEPTEMBER 24 | 2023

Grace members and friends,



One of the hallmarks of a faithful Christian is generosity. It is one of the fruits of the Spirit in our lives (Galatians 5:22). Generous giving is encouraged in many places in Scripture. Proverbs tells us that our generosity to the poor is a loan to the Lord (Proverbs 19:17). Jesus promises a return on our generosity saying, “Give, and you will receive. Your gift will return to you in full – pressed down, shaking together to make room for more, running over, and poured into your lap. The amount you give will determine the amount you get back” (Luke 6:38 NLT). Paul takes it even further with the Corinthian church: “Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance. . . You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity” (2 Corinthians 9:7-8, 11).




This Sunday we focus on #8 in God’s Top Ten List: You shall not steal. The opposite of stealing is to “Live Generously!” Join us this Sunday at 9am and 11:05am as we worship God enthusiastically.



Your pastor and friend,

Tracey

God’s Top Ten List

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| October 1 | #7 | Remain Faithful in Relationships (PG-13) |
| October 8 | #6 | Choose Life |
| October 15 | #5 | Honor Mom and Dad |
| October 22 | #4 | Catch Your Breath |
| October 29 | #3 | Take God Seriously |
| November 5 | #2 | Know God |
| November 12 | #1 | Make God the Priority |
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Get Involved at Grace!

Parent Date Night - September 30

Parents, do you need a date night? Grace PC's Family Ministry is sponsoring its first date night for this school year!

When: Sat. Sept 30th, 5:30-8:00pm

Where: Drop children off in Youth Room in CE Building while you and your spouse enjoy a lovely meal out!


Who: Babies - 5th grade

How Much: No Cost (but please pack a sack lunch for your child)! This is a FREE Event, but SIGN-UP is required by Sept 23rd to cara@gracepc.org (or check your Connection Card on Sunday morning)





Women of Grace Kickoff Party - October 1

It is time for a party! On Sunday, October 1st, at 12:15, the Women of Grace is hosting a kickoff party to celebrate, plan, fellowship, and re-connect. All women of Grace are invited. The party is taking place in Wheelus Hall, so make plans to attend. Since food will be provided, we ask that you RSVP to let us know you are coming. In addition, childcare will also be provided. You can use the email link in your newsletter email, or you can check your connection card. If you have any questions or want to help, contact Laurie Kneeland at 214-498-6364.



World Communion Sunday - October 1

World Communion Sunday is coming up on Sunday, October. The worship committee is looking for people born in foreign countries, and/or that speak a foreign language that are willing to participate in our worship service. If that is you, please fill out your connection card and drop it into the offering plate, or let Pastor Tracey know using the World Communion link in your newsletter email.






Peace and Global Witness Offering - October 1

As we celebrate World Communion Sunday, we also collect the Peace and Global Witness offering, one of the four denominational offerings we collect each year. The Peace & Global Witness Offering encourages the church to cast off anxiety and fear, discord and division, and embrace our God's mission of reconciliation to those around the corner and around the world. A gift to the Peace & Global Witness Offering enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of conflict and injustice across the world. Individual congregations are encouraged to utilize up to 25% of this Offering to connect with the global witness of Christ's peace. Mid councils retain an additional 25% for ministries of peace and reconciliation. The remaining 50% is used by the Presbyterian Mission Agency to advocate for peace and justice in cultures of violence, including our own, through collaborative projects of education and Christian witness.

Fall Festival - Oct. 29



Our Fall Festival is coming! Grace Presbyterian Church hosts this large community outreach event each year, but it takes a village to pull it off. We are currently looking for volunteers to help with planning, volunteer your trunk for trunk or treat, donate candy, or donate game prizes. If you are willing to do any or all of the above, check your connection card on Sunday, or email Pastor Cara using the Fall Festival link in your newsletter email.



Prayers are Being Answered

Your Prayer Team meets every Sunday in MB2 to pray over the prayers that have been shared with us. We meet at 4 PM, if you would like to have personal hands-on prayer, or wish to join us. If you would like to receive a list of the prayers weekly, send a message to Mike Shaw at broncosrbest@verizon.net to be added to our efforts to connect to the Lord and the community. Every week, God responds and answers. Here are some God answered this past week:

Connie Key continues to heal faster than originally expected from her back surgery!

Velia Saucedo has recovered from her car accident a couple of months back!

22 New Members at Grace in 2023, through September!





Mission Updates

Minnie's Food Pantry Workday - Saturday, Oct. 7

Our next Minnie's Food Pantry work day is scheduled for the morning of Saturday October 7th. To volunteer check the box on your connection card or contact Hellen Blacklock at kids-ot@hotmail.com.

PCHAS Luncheon - Thursday, November 9

The yearly Presbyterian Children's Home and Services (PCHAS) luncheon is scheduled for Thursday November 9th at noon. If you would like to attend, please RSVP on your connection card or click on Portia Stephens email link in your newsletter email.

Clothes Closet

Did you know that Grace participates in the Plano Clothes Closet? If you drop off clean, gently used clothing in the closet between the west narthex doors, Jeanne Peck takes it over to the Plano Clothes Closet, operating out of First Presbyterian Church, Plano.

Giving Thanks

Dear GracePC Family,

Thank you so much for supporting my seminary education through the Harry Chase fund. Your support helps me to attend seminary and to take advantage of opportunities to grow in faith and ministry through internships, conferences, and pilgrimage. I am enormously grateful to be a member at GracePC and for your loving sponsorship of my path in ministry.

Love,
Sarah Rutherford



Testimony HQ

“Every believer has a story to share of God in their lives. Listen to what Grace members have to share”

Where have you seen God recently?

God showed up for my Hannah! She and the kids are in a very nice home!

In my home! Healing and bringing peace.

In my grandson's laugh and smile

In the love of a father

My mother, my mother's parents and leaders at Chrisian Summer Camp.

In the kindness of a stranger

In children's faces as they learn of his love!

Everywhere I look!

In the serendipitous conversations about impact versus intent being had.

God is softening hearts and changing minds!

In the unconditional, forgiving, empathetic heart of my son

Everywhere I go!

Hugs, smiles, support for family and friends

In a person who needed a ride home in the heart

In God redirecting my priorities

In the staff at OKWU who organized a separate graduation ceremony for a student who couldn't attend the actual date because his father died.

My mom making fries for us.

Everytime my family smiles.

In my heart

In the hug of a homeless person

In people making God connections to one another

At the Exultation Home concert each year. Seeing the loving acts of music and mission they give. Seeing the love for each other.

Helping my Grandpa water the plants

Helping with my brother's and brothers' in the community housing

In my daughter helping a handicapped man

In his daily provision!

At my workplace! He sent his angels to keep me calm and help me prepare for the new school year!

In my brain, telling me that I can do anything!

A stylized sun with rays is centered at the top. Large, teal-colored leaves with yellow spots are positioned in the top-left and top-right corners.

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.

A slice of watermelon with red flesh, black seeds, and a green rind is located on the left side.

Youth Ministry Updates

Youth Connect

Youth Connect will meet each week immediately following Sunday School for a time of food, fun, and fellowship. All youth, 6th-12th grade are invited to participate.

Youth Food Fee

We are asking each family to pay \$25 a student, each semester, to offset the cost of the food expenses. Please pay by cash or online using the link in your newsletter email. We are also asking each family to provide a snack starting in the month of October. Parents will receive a sign-up genius at the end of this month with a list of dates and suggested snack ideas. All receipts for snacks can be turned into my mailbox for reimbursement.

If you have any questions about the children's or youth upcoming schedule and events, please contact Rev. Cara Ellis at cara@gracepc.org.


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 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, and click on the Sanctuary flower box.

Large, teal-colored leaves with yellow spots are positioned in the bottom-left and bottom-right corners.

Young Adults

Young Adults, please mark your calendars for our upcoming events:

September 30 (Saturday)

Saturday, September 30, 2023

Meet at 11:00 AM

Ticket and Coupon Pick Up from
11:00 AM to 11:30 AM

In Person Event

Fair Park, State Fair

3809 Grand Ave, Dallas, TX 75210



Get a ticket into the fair AND two sheets of coupons for \$10! Once you register, you will receive details of where to meet to collect tickets and coupons before entering the fair. Please register using the link in your newsletter email.

October 1 (Sunday)

Lunch and light biblical-based discussion at the Moreland's at around 12:15pm.

All are welcome so please invite your friends to join us. For questions or more information about the Young Adult Ministry at GPC, please reach out to Bonnie Moreland @ 972-523-1266.



The young adults enjoyed a fun night of fellowship at Saturday's FC Dallas soccer game. Those who arrived early were able to watch the team warm-up.



Want to Sing or Ring?

The GPC Music Ministry's school year rehearsal schedule is below.

Choirs

Sanctuary Adult Choir

Wednesdays, 7:00 – 8:15pm

Sanctuary

Michael King, Director

Voices in Praise (VIPs)

Children's choir for grades 2 – 5

Sundays, 5:15 – 6pm

Room CE215

Hannah Allen, Director

Exultation Choir

Youth choir for grades 6 – 12

Sundays, 4:00 – 5:15pm

Sanctuary

Michael King, Director

Cherub Choir

Children's choir for PK thru 1st gd.

Sundays, 4:15 – 5pm

Room CE215

Hannah Allen, Director

Handbell Choirs

Grace Notes

Advanced adult handbells

Sundays, 6:00 – 7:30pm

Room: Sanctuary

Michael King, Director

Credo

High school handbells

Sundays, 2:45 – 4:00pm

Room: Sanctuary

Katie Schnittker, Director

Tintinnabulators

Middle school handbells

Sundays, 2:45 – 4:00pm

Room CE204-205

Hannah Allen, 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



Want to Learn?

Children's School Year Sunday School & Godly Play Schedule

Preschool SS	CE211
K-1st SS	CE214
2nd-3rd SS	CE212
4th-5th SS	CE216
Godly Play	CE213
(Godly Play Worship Center)	

Youth School Year Sunday School Schedule

Middle School SS	CE201-203
High School SS	CE201-203
Confirmation (Begins Jan. 7, 2024)	

Adult Sunday School

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



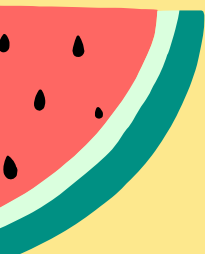
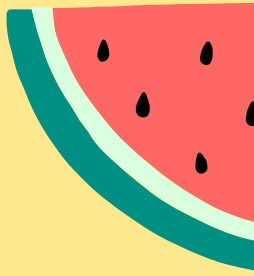


Weekly Bible Study Opportunities

Mon. PM Men's, 7-9PM	MB4
Tues. AM Women, 10-11:30AM	MB2
Wed. AM Women of Wonder, 10:30AM	MB4
Thurs. PM Women Generations of Grace, 7PM (begins Sept. 7)	MB3
Fri. AM Men's, 7-9AM	MB2
Every Other Sat. Men's Bible Study, 8-10AM	MB2



Calendar

SEPTEMBER

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- 22 Jigsaw Puzzler's Group Meeting, 7PM (Grace Place)
 - 23 Presbytery Meeting, Preston Hollow Presbyterian Church
 - 23 Quilt Ministry Meeting, 9AM (CE204/205)
 - 24 Contemporary Worship, 9AM
 - 24 Sunday School for All, 10AM3
 - 24 Traditional Worship, 11:05AM
 - 24 Godly Play, 11:15AM ((CE213, Godly Play Worship Center))
 - 24 Youth Connect, 11:15AM (Youth Rooms)
 - 24 Credo Bell Rehearsal, 2:45PM (Sanctuary)
 - 24 Tintinnabulators Bell Rehearsal, 2:45PM (CE204/205)
 - 24 Exultation Choir Rehearsal, 4PM (Sanctuary)
 - 24 Prayer Group Meeting, 4PM (MB2)
 - 24 Cherub Choir Rehearsal, 4:15PM (CE215)
 - 24 Carillon Ringers Bell Rehearsal, 4:30PM (CE204/205)
 - 24 Voices in Praise Choir Rehearsal, 5:15PM (CE215)
 - 24 Grace Notes Rehearsal, 7PM (Sanctuary)
 - 25 PCHAS Golf Scramble
 - 25 Men's Monday PM Bible Study, 7PM (MB4)
 - 26 Tuesday AM Women's Bible Study, 10AM (MB2)
 - 26 Deacon Meeting, 7PM (CE204/205)
 - 26 Grief Group, 7PM (Wheelus Hall)
 - 27 Women of Wonder Bible Study, 10:30AM (MB4)
 - 27 ESL, 5:30PM
 - 27 Citizenship Class, 6:15PM
 - 27 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
 - 28 Children and Youth Committee Meeting, 7PM (Zoom)
 - 28 Generations of Grace Women's Bible Study, 7PM (MB2)
 - 29 Men's Friday AM Bible Study, 7AM (MB2)
 - 30 Parent's Date Night, 5:30PM