



GRACE NEWS


NOVEMBER 19 | 2023

Dear Grace Members and Friends,

I hope that you are enjoying the crisp and cool autumn days after such a blistering hot summer. It seems that the heat is finally behind us, though it hasn't even been a full month since temperatures last made it into the 90s. While I have been enjoying the respite from the heat, one of the things that always throws me off during this time of year is the switch from daylight saving time to standard time. Of course, I love the extra hour of sleep when the time change happens, but I also need some time to adjust to the shorter days and earlier sunsets in the first few weeks of each November. The darkness that starts to set in on my commute home isn't my favorite and whenever we have committee meetings in the fall it feels a little odd to begin when it's completely dark outside. The shift from light to darkness is still a little jarring right now, but in about two weeks I'll be completely adjusted, and in about a month from now I won't even think about it at all.

This contrast between light and darkness, that I've been reminded by over the course of the last couple of weeks, is mentioned all throughout the scriptures. The imagery is fundamental to how we understand our faith and it's even found in the oldest writings from our New Testament. When Paul first writes to the Thessalonians, he refers to early Christians as "children of light and children of the day." He even says that we "belong to the day" and connects that idea to salvation. So, what does salvation have to do with the light of day? And what concerns Paul about the darkness at night? Can this metaphor teach us anything special about our faith in 2023? Join us this Sunday at 9am and 11:05am as we explore 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 and listen for what words God might have for us today as we explore Paul's words from nearly 2000 years ago.

Grace and peace,
Wilson





Get Involved at Grace!

Family Gateway Mission Project, launches this Sunday, Nov.19

Family Gateway is a Dallas organization which serves the homeless. Grace has been supporting the Family Gateway families at Christmas for close to 10 years and this year we have committed to adopt 50 families. You are being asked to purchase at least two unwrapped gifts for each child in your adopted family, and if you would like to support the adults, a Walmart gift card (min. \$25) is preferred. A sign-up genius form will allow you to choose your family, and then the children's wish list will be emailed to you. Please return gifts by 11AM on Saturday, Dec. 16. Location for drop off is the bride's room closet.

Church Offices Closed - Nov. 23 & 24

The church offices will be closed on Thursday and Friday, November 23 & 24, in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday.

Advent Decorating - Nov. 28 & Nov. 30

The Worship & Music Committee will be decorating our Sanctuary for Advent on Tuesday evening, Nov. 28 at 7pm, and on Thursday evening, Nov. 30 at 7pm. If you would like to participate, check your connection card on Sunday.

Sounds of Christmas - Dec. 3

Make plans to attend our annual Sounds of Christmas Concert, featuring our adult, youth, and children's choirs, and Grace Notes, our adult handbell choir. The concert begins at 6PM. Invite your friends and family to this wonderful kickoff to the holiday season.





Women of Grace Christmas Party - Dec. 4

We warmly welcome all of the women of Grace to join us in celebrating the Christmas season! The party will be held at the home of Kris Turner on Monday, December 4, from 6-8pm. Bring an ornament for an ornament exchange. To help with the preparations, please check your connection card if you are planning to attend. If you have any questions, contact Kris at kris@gracepc.org. Childcare is available for the party. If you need childcare, check your connection card or contact Pastor Cara at cara@gracepc.org.

ADVENT STUDY @GRACE PC

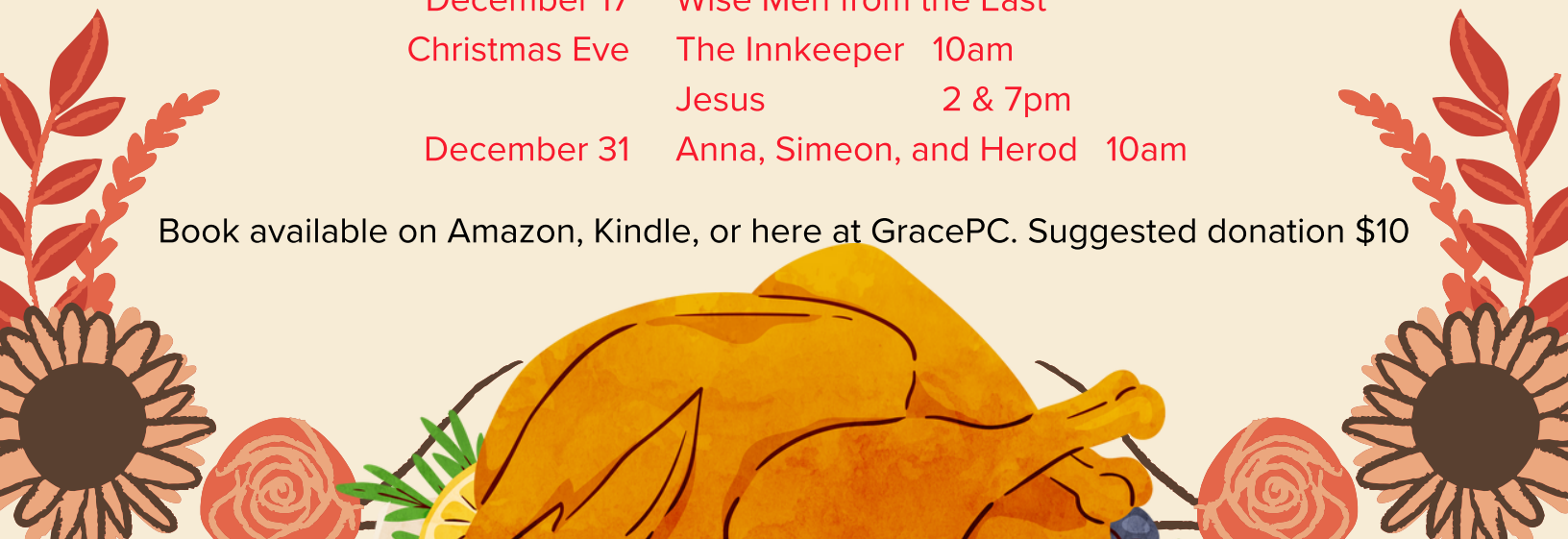


The Characters of Christmas

Unlikely people just like you and me are caught up in the story of Jesus. Join us as we take a fresh look at the Christmas story by getting to know them all:

December 3	Mary & Joseph
December 10	Shepherds and Angels
December 17	Wise Men from the East
Christmas Eve	The Innkeeper 10am
	Jesus 2 & 7pm
December 31	Anna, Simeon, and Herod 10am

Book available on Amazon, Kindle, or here at GracePC. Suggested donation \$10





Christmas Eve Worship Schedule

10AM	4th Sunday of Advent combined worship service
1-2PM	Petting Zoo
2PM	Christmas Eve family worship service
7PM	Christmas Eve candlelight worship service

Mission Updates

The Noman family of Rohingya refugees arrived safely in DFW and will be staying in Grace Place until early next week.

Earlier this month Grace sent representatives to both the Family Promise Dinner of Hope and the Presbyterian Children's Home and Services (PCHAS) fall luncheon.

Giving the gift of life - Grace had 13 donors and 2 deferrals at the Carter Blood mobile this past Sunday.

Thanks to all Grace members who have supported our mission efforts during the month!

Staff Vacations

Pastor Cara – November 18-25

Pastor Tracey – November 20-25

Thank you for helping us to ensure a healthy, well-rested, and enthusiastic staff!





Sincere Sympathy

Carl Cox and his family as they grieve the passing of his sister, Lela Heacock who passed on Sunday, October 15.

Jane Sackett and her family on the passing of her stepmother, Doris Glidden on Tuesday, October 31.

Melody Olson and her family as they grieve the loss of her father Clarence, who passed on Monday, November 13.

Prayers of comfort, hope, and peace.

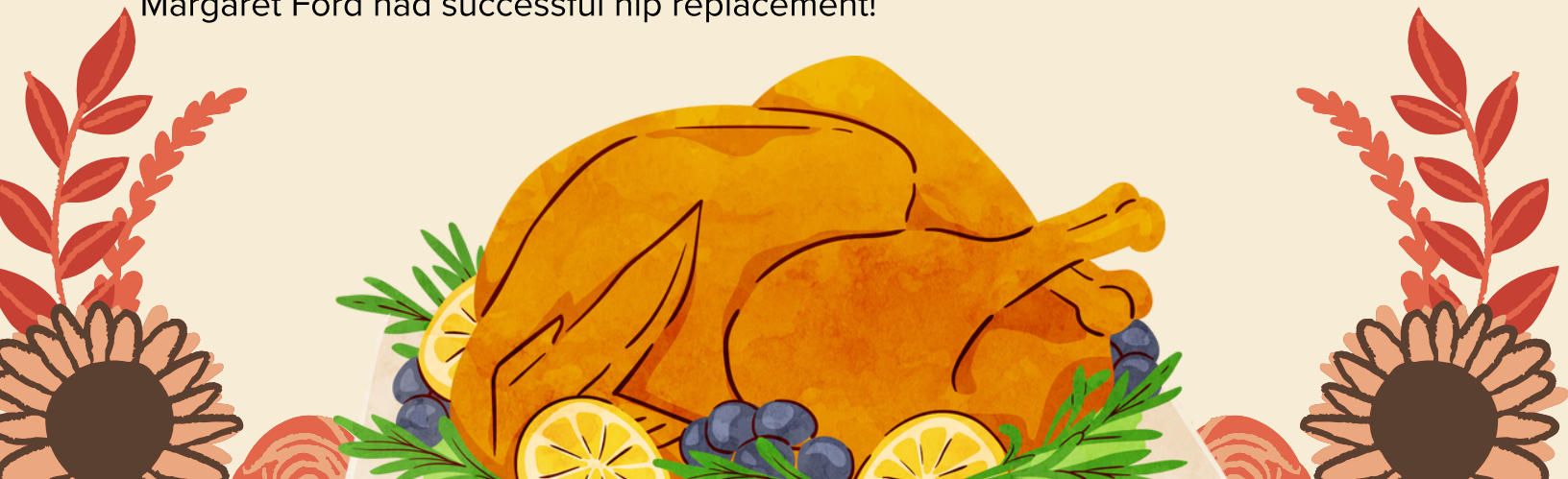
“Precious in the sight of Lord is the death of his holy ones.”
Psalm 116:15

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:

A friend of Lorna Little was given a terminal diagnosis and now everything looks to be on the mend, miraculously healing her leukemia!

Margaret Ford had successful hip replacement!





Stewardship Thought

“Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.” Galatians 6:9-10

I thank God for the many people at Grace PC who do good to all, including their fellow believers, and me! Keep it up! You make a critical difference. Pastor Tracey

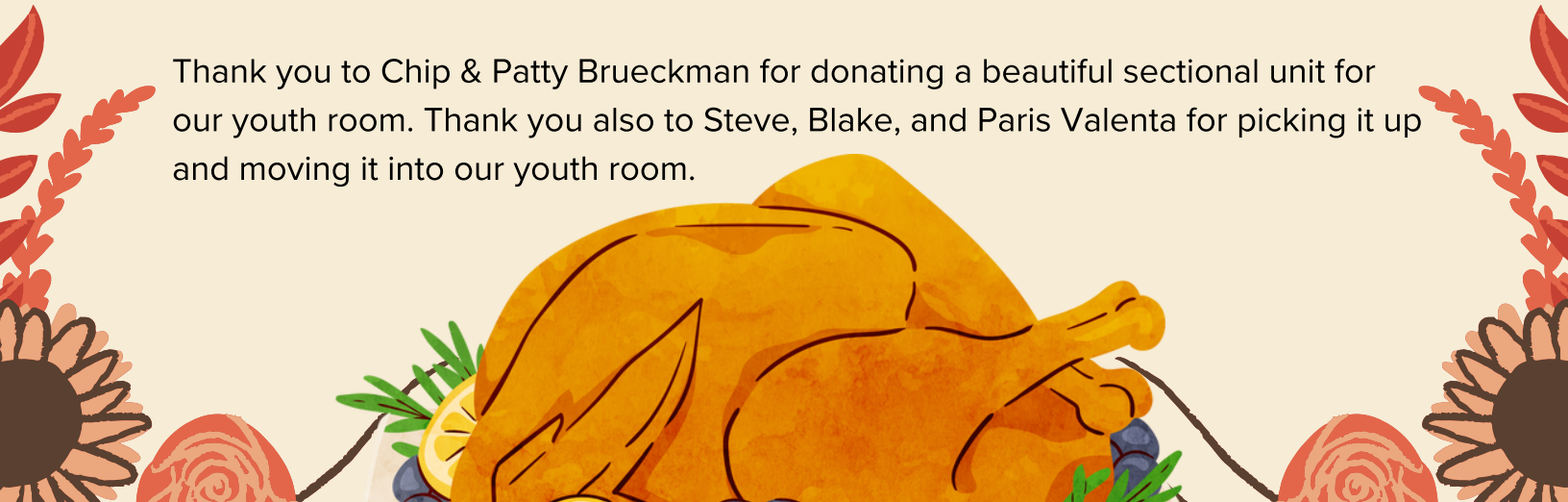
Thank You

Thank you to everyone who donated pies, whipped cream, and their time to provide and serve lunch to the staff of Beaty Early Childhood School.



Thank you for the many hours our Children & Youth Ministry Team has put in this fall in service to the children and youth of Grace. Thank you: Bryan Raaum, Steve Valenta, Teri Waite, Erin Booke, Eme Thomas, Liz Urech, and Caroline Werner. Pastor Cara appreciates your commitment and dedication.

Thank you to Chip & Patty Brueckman for donating a beautiful sectional unit for our youth room. Thank you also to Steve, Blake, and Paris Valenta for picking it up and moving it into our youth room.





Children's Ministry

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.

Advent Wreaths - December 3

Our children's ministry will be making Advent Wreaths on Sunday, December 3 during the Sunday School hour (10am). If your child is planning on making a wreath, please check your connection card and let us know so Pastor Cara can ensure we have enough supplies.





Young Adults Ministry

Young Adults will be adhering to our 1st and 3rd Sunday schedule for November and December, please note the following events and add to your calendars:

In December, the Young Adults will meet on **December 17** only.

Upcoming College Social

All college-age students, please mark your calendar for a winter break get-together on Sunday, December 17 at 6:30 p.m. Details to come. Parents of college-age students, please share this date with your students. It will be fun opportunity to reconnect with friends over the holiday break!

For questions or more information about the Young Adult Ministry at GPC , please reach out to Bonnie Moreland at 972-523-1266.

All are welcome, so please invite your friends to join us.

Grace Presbytery is sponsoring a Young Adult Gathering at ICE at the Gaylord Texan on Saturday, December 9. ICE and the Gaylord Texan's holiday decorations are guaranteed to put you in the Christmas Spirit! And the evening is very reasonably priced! So, bring a friend and have a fun and memorable evening!





Young Adults Ministry Cont.

REGISTER for GRINCH-MAS

Saturday, December 9, 2023

In Person Event

Starting at: Gaylord Texan Resort & Convention Center

1501 Gaylord Trail, Grapevine, TX 76051

Click on the registration link in your newsletter email.





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

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, 4:15 – 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

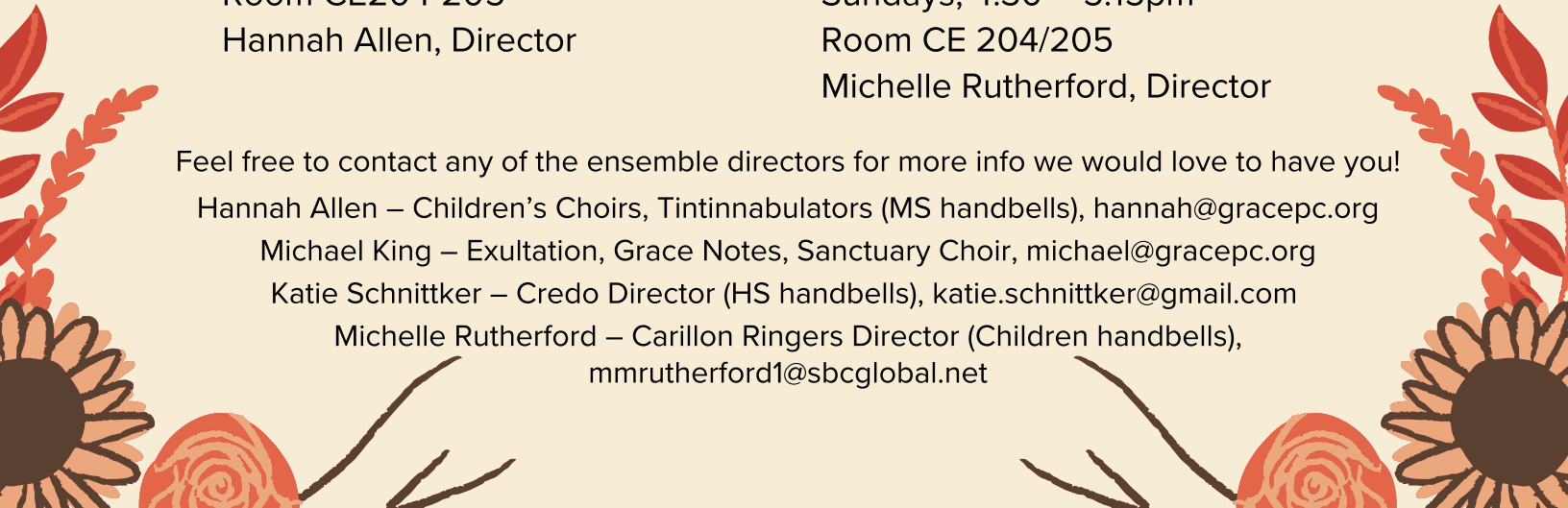
Feel free to contact any of the ensemble directors for more info we would love to have you!

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)	

There is no children's or youth Sunday School or Godly Play this Sunday, Nov. 19

Adult Sunday School

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

Koinonia will not be meeting this Sunday, Nov. 19

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	MB3
Fri. AM Men's, 7-9AM	MB2
Every Other Sat. Men's Bible Study, 8-10AM	MB2





Calendar

NOVEMBER

17 Irlean Asamoah's Viewing, 5PM (Sanctuary)
17 Bell Polishing, 5:30PM (Youth Rooms)
18 Irlean Asamoah's Funeral, 11AM (Sanctuary)
18 Gotta Have Fun Game Night, 6:30PM (Youth Rooms)
19 Contemporary Worship, 9AM
19 Adult Sunday School, 10AM
19 Traditional Worship, 11:05AM
19 Prayer Group Meeting, 4PM (MB2)
19 Grace Notes Rehearsal, 6PM (Sanctuary)
21 Tuesday AM Women's Bible Study, 10AM (MB2)
21 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, 7PM
23 Church Office Closed - Happy Thanksgiving!
24 Church Office Closed
26 Contemporary Worship, 9AM
26 Sunday School for All, 10AM
26 Traditional Worship, 11:05AM
26 Godly Play, 11:15AM ((CE213, Godly Play Worship Center))
26 Youth Connect, 11:15AM (Youth Rooms)
26 Young Adult Friendsgiving, 12:15 (Moreland's)
26 All Saints' Lunch, 12:15PM (Wheelus Hall)
26 Credo Bell Rehearsal, 2:45PM (Sanctuary)
26 Tintinnabulators Bell Rehearsal, 2:45PM (CE204/205)
26 Exultation Choir Rehearsal, 4PM (Sanctuary)
26 Prayer Group Meeting, 4PM (MB2)
26 Cherub Choir Rehearsal, 4:15PM (CE215)
26 Carillon Ringers Bell Rehearsal, 4:30PM (CE204/205)
26 Voices in Praise Choir Rehearsal, 5:15PM (CE215)
26 Grace Notes Rehearsal, 6PM (Sanctuary)

