

GRACE NEWS



April 14 | 2024

Grace members and friends,

We are two weeks out from Easter Sunday. Pastor Wilson has brought us through our doubt with Thomas, but we still struggle with what Jesus' resurrection means to us. The Resurrection is Jesus Christ, God in the flesh, who was crucified, dead, and buried, rose to life again on the third day. Jesus is alive! But what does it mean?

In worship this week, we consider that passage where the risen Jesus meets his disciples on the shore of the Sea of Galilee early one morning (John 21:1-19). He makes them breakfast on the beach and he and Peter have a great talk. We learn from this account that Resurrection lasts more than just one Sunday a year. It lasts more than the period of the church year we call Eastertide, the weeks between Easter and Pentecost. And it has astounding consequences for those who believe. Everything is different. This event began new realities for us that last until today.

Join us this Sunday at 9 and 11:05am as we continue to celebrate that Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!

Your pastor and friend,

Tracey



He is not here; He has risen

MATTHEW 28:6

Get Involved at Grace!



Pilgrimage Renewal - April 12

A Pilgrimage renewal group meets on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of each month from 5:30-6:30PM. They meet just prior to the Jigsaw Puzzle group meetings. Meetings will be at Grace Place unless there is a refugee family in Grace Place. The alternate location for both meetings is CE 204/205.

Jigsaw Puzzle Group Meeting - April 12

Our jigsaw puzzle group is meeting this Friday, April 12 at 7PM in CE204/205. If you love working on jigsaw puzzles, or just want to hang out with some fun people, just show up. All are welcome.

New Members - April 14

We will be receiving new members this Sunday, April 14. If you would like to join our Grace family, or have questions about membership please reach out to Pastor Tracey at tracey@gracepc.org, or talk with any pastor following worship.

Adult Learning Opportunity - April 14 & 15

Brian McClaren: To Bless the Space Between Us

How can we listen to each other across our differences? How can we use our presence, words, and actions to bless the spaces between us? Preston Hollow Presbyterian Church (9800 Preston Rd, Dallas) will host author and theologian Brian McClaren for free, public lectures on April 14 and 15 at 7pm.



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Troop 999 Carwash Fundraiser - April 20

Our boy scout troop is holding a carwash at Grace on Saturday, April 20 from 10am to 2pm to raise money for their summer camps. Stop by the circle drive, get your car washed, and support Troop 999.

Women of Grace Spring Luncheon - April 20

Ladies, this Sunday is your last chance to purchase your tickets to the Women's Luncheon in the narthex. The cost of the ticket is \$12. This will be a salad luncheon, with homemade desserts. We are blessed to have Adrienne Nicholson as our keynote speaker. Adrienne is the Manager of Volunteer Services at the Stewpot in Dallas. The Stewpot serves individuals and families experiencing economic, housing, and food insecurity by offering programs in the areas of housing, stabilization, education, nutrition, and enrichment. In addition to Adrienne, we will learn about the work The Legacy Knit & Crochet Club are doing for the community, and we will be holding a yarn drive to support their efforts. Bring your yarn to the luncheon. If you need childcare, please check your connection card or email Kris at kris@gracepc.org. In addition, the boyscouts will be having a carwash fundraiser on April 20, so you will want to park in either the west parking lot, or the lot across from Travis.

Presbyterianism 101 Short-Term Study - April 29

Beginning in April, Grace PC will host a short-term study focused on what we believe as Presbyterians. The study will begin on **Monday, April 29th** and will continue over the course of the following three Monday nights (**5/6, 5/13, 5/20**) at **7 p.m. in Wheelus Hall**. In the study we will cover some of the basics of Reformed theology, worship, and Presbyterian polity. The study is sponsored by our GPC Christian Formation Committee for Adults/Young Adults. All are invited to attend, so we hope you will join us as we learn, study, and gather together. For any questions about the study, you may contact Pastor Wilson at wilson@gracepc.org.

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VBS Supplies Needed

VBS is coming and we need your help! One of the ways that VBS runs so smoothly is because of the generous donations of both time and money that we receive from the congregation. If you would like to donate your time, please contact Pastor Cara at cara@gracepc.org or check your connection card. If you would like to donate financially to VBS, we are asking for donations of gift cards in denominations of \$25, \$50, or \$100 from Walmart, Michael's, Amazon, or Home Depot. Please grab a slip of paper from the VBS donation board in the Narthex for the gift card you would like to donate. You may drop off the gift cards in any of the brown donation boxes in the Sanctuary or outside of Kris Turner's office, or you may leave them in Pastor Cara's mailbox. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Men of Grace

Men's Conference - May 3-5

All men of the church are invited to the annual Men's Conference at MO-RANCH in the beautiful Texas hill country along the banks of the Guadalupe river. The conference will be held from May 3-5. Cost is determined by the type of housing you select. There is a discount for anyone under 40. There are expert-led workshops, engaging keynotes, soul-affirming worship, and rest and relaxation. The registration link can be found in your newsletter email and Bill Harrison will be available in the narthex this Sunday to answer questions and assist with registrations. If you have any questions, contact Bill Harrison at wmcharrison@verizon.net.



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Men's Breakfast - April 27

Men of Grace, we have an exciting opportunity for you coming up in April. Our men are gathering in Wheelus Hall for fellowship and breakfast on Saturday morning, April 27 at 8:30-10am. The keynote speaker for the event is Robert Borelli and his message is "From Mafia to Ministry".

Robert Borelli was born in Brooklyn, New York, in 1954, in the middle of the Gambino Crime Family neighborhood. As a young boy he quickly built a reputation as a little tough guy. Surrounded by real tough guys he began working for The Gambino's by fourteen. By twenty he had two murder wraps and numerous arrests under his belt. He was being paraded around the neighborhood as the up and coming star of the feared Gambino Family, the same family which John Gotti would eventually bring into the main stream media and make a household name.

Over the next twenty-two years Robert fell hard into the mafioso lifestyle which involved money, crime, and drug addiction. In 1997, as a forty-four-year-old man, he found himself in jail, looking to serve ten to twenty years. With over 130 criminal charges against his name it was obvious he had become a career criminal. With no help from the Mob, or his friends life seemed hopeless.

Little did he know his story had just begun. In jail Robert found redemption and a second chance. He discovered truth, faith and purpose like nothing he had ever experienced before. With a new outlook, on life, for the first time he decided to do right instead of wrong, to love instead of hate, to serve instead of take.

From there, Robert spent time studying the Word of God at both Criswell College and Christ for the Nations Institute. He gained some intense formal education in his newfound faith.

His story baffles the mind and intrigues the hearts of all who hear it.

His passion and calling is to share his story as a preventive to those who are in similar situations, and encourage each of us to find the Truth about who we really are.

Today, as he tours around the world, he candidly, emotionally and passionately shares his life story with all who will listen.

There is no cost for this event, but a love offering will be taken. Please check your connection card if you are planning to attend.

ESL Celebration - May 8

Come and join us for the “end of class” ESL celebration on Wed. May 8th, 5:30-6:30pm in Wheelus Hall.

During our Vision 2030 presentation, we discussed welcoming everyone. This is our opportunity to show our love to these wonderful ESL students.

If you’ve ever participated in a “multi cultural” night, that’s what this end of class celebration is.

If you feel called to host a country table, please use the link in your newsletter email to register for a country. What’s required for hosting a table you may ask?

- Decorate a table appropriate to your country
- Perhaps have a poster board of some fun facts about your country
- A food dish or 2 from your country - could be desert, candy, cookies, a well known dish, etc.

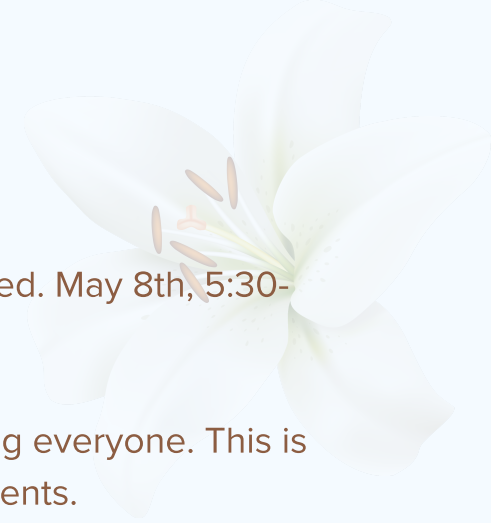
Who doesn’t love sampling food from around the world?

You DO NOT need to host a table - if you want to come and enjoy the celebration...come on down for delightful food and conversation from around the world! The main point- that we shower our love on these students.

Please contact Eunice Pribadi (eunicesantoso@gmail.com) or David Hurwich (dahurwich@gmail.com) for questions or for more information.

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Fellowship Volunteers Needed

Are you interested in helping organize church fellowship events, such as potlucks, treats on Sunday mornings, and other church-wide events filled with food and fun? Ann Boles is putting together a list of people to call upon to help organize, set up, and clean up events. No cooking skills are required. If you would like to serve our church family in this way, please click on the email link in your newsletter email or contact Ann at 972-898-3405.

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 is a God answered this past week:

- The Go Fund me account for Stephanie Child's has exceeded its goal!
- Ted Wells is healing after a long-lasting sinus infection.

We Celebrate!

We'd like to celebrate with you too! Please send us anything you are willing to share that will give us a reason to praise God with you and for you! Promotions, awards, accomplishments, personal victories, milestones, or "you name it" are welcome. Send them to Pastor Tracey at tracey@gracepc.org

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Mission Updates

Blood Drive: The Carter Blood Mobile will be at Grace Sunday morning April 21st. For more information see your connection card or posters in the Narthex.

Minnie's Food Pantry: Our next Minnie's workday is Saturday May 4th. See your connection card if you can join us for the event. As a lead up to the workday we're preparing Toiletry Bags - you don't have to sign up for the event to bring the bags. The bags (see image) should contain:

- Travel Shampoo
- Travel Conditioner
- Travel Toothpaste
- Toothbrush
- Travel Body Wash
- Travel Deodorant



Prepared bags can be left on the table designated in the Narthex. Minnie's is also out of peanut butter - which can be left on the same table.

Prayers for Grace Families

Sincere sympathy to Melinda Shiff on the passing of her husband Max on March 25. A memorial service for Max will be held at Grace on Saturday, April 27 at 1PM. If you would like to offer support to Melinda during this time, a signup genius has been created by her daughter Blair to provide times to visit and meals. Click on the link in your newsletter email to participate.

Children's Ministry Update

VBS & SMACK Registration Is Open!

VBS and SMACK registrations opened last Tuesday, April 2nd to all GPC family and friends! Make sure to sign up early because spots fill up quickly! VBS is June 24th-28th from 9am-12pm with an option to have your child stay until 2pm. SMACK is July 8th – 12th from 9am-2pm. Sign-up online at gracepc.org! If you would like to volunteer for either event please check your connection card or reach out to Pastor Cara (cara@gracepc.org) for VBS or Hannah Allen (hannah@gracepc.org) for SMACK!

Young Adults

The Young Adults will meet Sunday, April 21, for brunch at 12:15 p.m. at CAVA, 1901 Preston Road, Plano, TX. Please join us. Friends and visitors are always welcome.

If you are interested in learning more about the Young Adult Ministry, please contact Bonnie Moreland at 972-523-1266 or Wilson Nicholson at wilson@gpc.org.

College Age Students

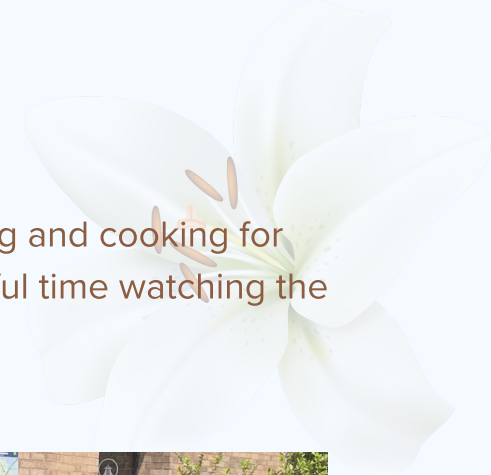
If you would like your college student to receive a care package this spring, check your connection card, or reach out to Bonnie Moreland.

Youth Updates

- **April 14th** - Faith Questions: Relationships Small Group Study: "I know we're supposed to love our neighbors as ourselves, but what if I don't love myself?", 5:15pm - 6:00pm in Youth Room. Snacks Provided.
- **April 21st** - Faith Questions: Relationships Small Group Study: "What kind of people does God want me to be around?", 5:15pm - 6:00pm in Youth Room. Snacks Provided.
- **April 28th** - Confirmation Sunday!
- **May 5th** - Cinco De Mayo Party, 5:15-6:30pm. Youth Room.
- **May 12th** - Happy Mother's Day! We will have Sunday School at 10am!
- **May 19th** - Field Trip to Dallas Holocaust and Human Rights Museum. 10am - 3pm. Cost \$8. RSVP Deadline April 20th. Sign up at [Your paragraph text](#)

Thank You's

A big thank you goes out to Bill Urech for organizing, hosting and cooking for the eclipse lunch and watch party. Everyone had a wonderful time watching the majesty of God's creation.



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 10AM

Preschool SS	CE211
K-1st SS	CE214
2nd-3rd SS	CE212
4th-5th SS	CE216

Youth School Year Sunday School Schedule 10AM

Middle School SS	CE201-203
High School SS	CE201-203
Confirmation	CE200

Godly Play Schedule

11:15AM

Godly Play	CE213
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(Godly Play Worship Center)

Adult Sunday School - 10AM

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 Bible Study, 7-9PM	MB4
Tues. AM Women, 10-11:30AM	Wheelus Hall
Wed. AM Women of Wonder, 10:30AM	MB4
Thurs. PM Generations of Grace Women's, 7PM	MB4
Fri. AM Men's Bible Study, 7-9AM	MB2
Every Other Sat. Men's Bible Study, 8-10AM	MB2

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Calendar



APRIL

- 12 Pilgrimage Renewal, 5:30PM (CE2-4/205)
- 12 Jigsaw Puzzle Group Meeting, 7PM (CE204/205)
- 13 Quilt Ministry Meeting, 9AM (CE204/205)
- 14 Contemporary Worship, 9AM
- 14 Sunday School for All, 10AM
- 14 Traditional Worship, 11:05AM
- 14 Credo Bell Rehearsal, 2:45PM (Sanctuary)
- 14 Tintinnabulators Bell Rehearsal, 2:45PM (CE204/205)
- 14 Exultation Choir Rehearsal, 4PM (Sanctuary)
- 14 Prayer Group Meeting, 4PM (MB2)
- 14 Cherub Choir Rehearsal, 4:15PM (CE215)
- 14 Carillon Ringers Bell Rehearsal, 4:30PM (CE204/205)
- 14 Voices in Praise Choir Rehearsal, 5:15PM (CE215)
- 14 Grace Notes Rehearsal, 6PM (Sanctuary)
- 15 Cancer Support Group, 12PM (Zoom)
- 15 Way of Life, 6:30AM (MB2)
- 15 Men's Monday PM Bible Study, 7PM (MB4)
- 16 Tuesday AM Women's Bible Study, 10AM (Wheelus Hall)
- 16 Grief Group, 7PM (Wheelus Hall)
- 16 Property Committee Meeting, 7PM (Workroom)
- 16 Music & Worship Committee Meeting, 7PM (MB4)
- 17 Career Transitions Support Group, 9AM (MB2)
- 17 Women of Wonder Bible Study, 10:30AM (MB4)
- 17 ESL & Citizenship Class, 5:30PM
- 17 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, 7PM
- 18 Children & Youth Committee Meeting, 7PM (Zoom)
- 18 Generations of Grace Women's Bible Study, 7PM (MB4)
- 19 Men's Friday AM Bible Study, 8AM (MB2)
- 20 Men's Saturday AM Bible Study, 8:30AM (MB2)
- 20 Troop 999 Carwash, 10AM-2PM
- 20 Women of Grace Spring Luncheon, 12PM (Wheelus Hall)
- 20 Gotta Have Fun Game Night, 6:30PM (Youth Room)



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