

# GRACE NEWS

APRIL 20, 2025

Grace Family,

One technique in the exegetical process for writing a sermon is to read the text over and over again and see if anything jumps out, if the Holy Spirit brings something to light or causes me to focus on a particular phrase or word. The word that leapt off the page at me in John's account of the resurrection was run (John 20:1-9). What a strange Easter focus!

Mary, when she saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb, ran to tell Peter and John. Peter and John ran back to the tomb to see for themselves, younger John outrunning the older Peter. What's wonderful about this is that in ancient Jewish culture, people didn't run – unless they were an athlete, paid messenger, or fleeing something they feared. Part of the reason the Prodigal Son story was so offensive to those who first heard it was that the father ran to greet his son. It was very undignified for a man to run, especially to meet a wayward son. In John's account, Mary Magdalene, Peter, and John all run. I don't think it's an insignificant detail.

Why do they run? What makes us run?

**Join us this Sunday at 9am and 11:05am** as we worship God enthusiastically and proclaim that Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!

Philippians 1:3,  
*Tracey*

## Upcoming Sermon Texts

April 27  
May 4  
May 11



John 20:19-31  
John 21:1-19  
Acts 9:1-20



# Get Involved at Grace

## **Weeknight Women - April 22**

Our April Weeknight Women's dinner is going to be delicious! We are venturing out to the District of Willowbend. Please join us on the patio at Mexican Bar Co. at 6pm on 4/22/25, located at 6121 W. Park Boulevard, Ste RS-10, Plano TX. Check your connection card or contact Laurie Kneeland for additional details or to RSVP. (214-498-6364 or [coffee4la@yahoo.com](mailto:coffee4la@yahoo.com)))

## **Women's Pilgrimage Renewal Group - April 22**

Starting April 22, we will be changing our meeting day, time, and location!

We will be meeting 2nd and 4th Tuesday at 6pm. On April 22<sup>nd</sup> we will gather in the carpeted area of the nathex, and make a decision about a permanent meeting place. We would love to have anyone who has attended Pilgrimage to come and join us for spiritual renewal!

If you have not attended Pilgrimage, it's a wonderful weekend in the beautiful pine trees of Camp Gilmont with brothers and sisters in Christ that includes singing, speakers and discussion, meals together, and time for enjoying the beauty of the camp.

Contact Cathy Bebee, 214-770-4550 or Suzanne Mattison, 972-754-5731 for more details.





## **Blood Drive - April 27**

Carter Blood Care will be returning to Grace PC on April 27th, from 9:30am to 12:30pm, in order to accept your blood donations. Please indicate your interest in participating in this life saving effort by completing the Connection Card and placing it in the offering plate, or click on the registration link in your newsletter email.

## **Mo Ranch Conferences**

You are invited to attend one of the annual Conferences at Mo-Ranch in the beautiful Texas Hill Country near Kerrville. Take a break from the busyness of life to recharge physically, mentally and spiritually. Conference activities include keynote presentations, worship, fellowship, recreation, free time and workshops. The registration link is at the top of this email newsletter. Financial assistance is available.

### **Men's Conference May 2-4**

Our GPC point person for questions is Bill Harrison:  
[wmcharrison@verizon.net](mailto:wmcharrison@verizon.net)

### **Women's Conference June 6-8\***

Our GPC point person for questions is Helen Blacklock:  
[kids-ot@hotmail.com](mailto:kids-ot@hotmail.com)

\* Childcare is available at the Women's Conference for infants through 8th grade with structured programming for older children.





## ESL / Multi Cultural Celebration - May 7th

Come and join us for the “end of class” ESL celebration on Wednesday, May 7th, 5:30-6:30pm in Wheelus Hall. 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 this newsletter 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 3-fold poster board of some fun facts about your country.

A food dish or 2 from your country - could be dessert, 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 see Eunice Pribadi ([eunicesantoso@gmail.com](mailto:eunicesantoso@gmail.com)) or David Hurwich([dahurwich@gmail.com](mailto:dahurwich@gmail.com)) FMI.





# Finance Updates

## Quarterly Giving Statements

We now have the capability to email giving statements. By using email, we will save money. Please check your membership profile in Pushpay/CCB to make sure we have your correct email address. If you prefer to receive a paper copy of your giving statement, please contact John Moody, 469.429.6808 or [john@gracepc.org](mailto:john@gracepc.org)

To check your individual pledge to the 2025 Operating Fund or the Capital Campaign, log into your Pushpay/CCB account, My Giving, and see your progress underneath the "Pledges" section. You will see total contributions, recurring giving schedules to the campaigns, and pledge progress there.

## Affirmations & Thank You's

### God's Gardener's

Thank you to all of our God's Gardener's that came out on Saturday, April 12, to plant and beautify our church grounds. Your service makes a difference!

### Grief Group

Our Grief Group for spring 2025 concluded with closing worship on Tuesday, April 8th. We want to thank Mike Shaw for his continued leadership and dedication to this impactful ministry of Grace Presbyterian Church. We also want to be sure and recognize Laurie Shaw and Dena Dillard for the ways they served those in the group this spring. Many from our church and our community have been helped through their grieving process due to the commitment of these folks. We are blessed to have such dedicated and compassionate leaders in our nurture ministries.





## Confirmation Class 2025



Congratulations to Charlotte Catalano, Tabitha Goldsmith, and Isaac Headstream, our newest Grace members.

We had a wonderful class of confirmands this year, and want to thank Kelly Raaum and Teri Waite for their leadership. In addition, a big thank you goes out to Erin Booke, Liz Urech, and Derek Rutherford for mentoring our newest members. After meeting on Sunday mornings for the past 4 months, our confirmands concluded their class by serving at Feed My Starving Children with their mentors.



## Children's Music

Grace is blessed with an outstanding music programs led under the direction of Michael King. The programs begin with our children, and we want to thank Hannah Allen and Michelle Rutherford for their dedication to children's music. Hannah directs the Cherub and Voices in Praise choirs, and Michelle directs the Carillon ringers, bell choir. Both also spend countless hours on our SMACK (summer music and arts camp for kids) program. If you want a sample of children's music, we recommend signing up for SMACK today! Registration can be found on the front page of the website.





We had an awesome turnout for the annual Easter egg hunt! Kids from our church, the Day School, and our community enjoyed a petting zoo, heard the Easter story, made crafts, decorated cookies, and collected nearly 1000 eggs! Many thanks to all of the volunteers, who made this a successful event, especially the youth who worked hard in the sun to hide the eggs and Caroline Werner for organizing it



## Prayers are being Answered!

Your Prayer Team meets every Sunday in MB2 at 4PM and a 2nd prayer team meets every Tuesday evening at 7PM in the parlor to pray over the prayers that have been shared with us. If you would like to have personal hands-on prayer, or wish to join us you are welcome at either meeting. If you would like to receive a list of the prayers weekly, send a message to Mike Shaw at [broncosrbest@verizon.net](mailto:broncosrbest@verizon.net) to be added to our efforts to connect to the Lord and the community. Every week, God responds and answers.

- Danny Glover is over his pain and is out of the hospital.
- Cyndi Flanagan is out of the hospital from covid and pneumonia.
- 3 new members, as Charlotte, Isaac and Tabitha completed their Confirmation.



# New Members

In addition to our three confirmands, Mary Kay Holmes joined our Grace family last Sunday. When you see her at worship, please welcome her to our Grace family. Fun fact: Favorite musical artist as a teenager....might be the first time we've gotten this, but...without any hesitation...she answered- Elvis!



## Family Ministries Upcoming Events

### VBS Roadtrip - June 23-27

VBS is going on a roadtrip from June 23 through the 27th. It will be held from 9am-12pm, and if your child has finished K-5, they have the opportunity to extend through 2PM. **Registration is now open!** Registration will be found on the front page of the website. We are currently looking for volunteers. If you are being called to serve our children this summer, please check your connection card and we will reach out.

**Sign up now for the Youth Lock-In - Friday, June 27**  
Use the link in your newsletter email.

### SMACK - July 14-18

**SMACK Registration is open!** Our Summer Music and Arts Camp for Kids will take place from July 14-18 with a performance on Friday, the 18th.

**SMACK** is for children who have completed 2nd - 6th grade. **SMACK Jr.** is designed for Kindergarteners and 1st graders. To register, please use the links found in the email message above. Space is limited! Register today!





# Family Ministries Sunday AM Schedule

## Children's Sunday School - 10AM

	Room	Leaders
<b>Class</b> Preschool	CE 211	Helen Blacklock & Lorna Little
Kindergarten - 1st	CE 212	Mark Ellis & Xenia Gross Brad Boles
2nd - 3rd grades	CE 214	& David Hurwich
4th - 5th grades	CE 216	Liz Urech & Eme Thomas

## Youth Sunday School - 10AM

Class	Middle School & High School	Room	CE 200- CE203	Leaders
				Jack Davenport, Austin Nichols, Bryan Raaum, Teri Waite

## Godly Play - 11:15AM

**Class** Godly Play   **Room** CE 213 (Godly Play Worship Center)





# Want to Learn?

**Children's School Year  
Sunday School  
10AM**

**Youth School Year  
Sunday School  
10AM**

## **School Year Adult Sunday School - 10am**

Bible Boomers  
Koinonia  
Trinity  
Visions of Faith  
Word of Life

Wheelus Hall  
CE204/205  
MB2  
MB3  
MB4

## **Weekly Bible Study Opportunities**

Mon. PM Men's Bible Study, 7-9PM	MB4
Mon. Blue Angels, 12-1:30PM	MB2
Tues. AM Women, 10-11:30AM	MB2
Wed. AM Women of Wonder, 10:30AM	MB4
Thurs. PM Generations of Grace Women's, 7PM	MB2
Fri. AM Men's Bible Study, 8-10AM	MB2
Every Other Sat. Men's Bible Study, 8:30-10:30AM	MB2





# Want to Sing or Ring?

## Choirs

**Sanctuary Adult Choir**  
Wednesdays, 7:00 – 8:30pm  
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, 4 –  
5pm Room CE215  
Hannah Allen, Director

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

## Handbell Choirs

**Grace Notes**  
Advanced adult handbells  
Sundays, 5:45 – 7:15pm  
Room: Sanctuary  
Michael King, Director

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

**Agape Bells** Beginner adult handbells  
Sundays, 4:15 – 5pm  
Room: CE204-205  
Katie Schnittker, Director

**Carillon Ringers** Children  
(Grades 3-5) Handbells  
Sundays, 3 - 4pm Room  
CE204/205  
Michelle Rutherford &  
Hannah Allen, Directors

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

Hannah Allen – Children's Choirs, [hannah@gracepc.org](mailto:hannah@gracepc.org)

Michael King – Exultation, Grace Notes, Sanctuary Choir,  
[michael@gracepc.org](mailto:michael@gracepc.org)

Katie Schnittker – Credo Director, Agape Bells Director  
[katie.schnittker@gmail.com](mailto:katie.schnittker@gmail.com)

Michelle Rutherford – Carillon Ringers Director,  
[mmrutherford1@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mmrutherford1@sbcglobal.net)



# Calendar

## APRIL

- 18 Good Friday Worship Service, 7:30PM
- 19 Mens' Saturday AM Bible Study, 8:30AM (MB2)
- 19 Gotta Have Fund Game Night, 6:30PM (CE204/205)
- 20 He is Risen!
- 20 Easter Worship, 9AM
- 20 Easter Sunday School for All, 10AM
- 20 Easter Worship, 11:05AM
- 20 Easter Godly Play, 11:15AM (Godly Play Worship Center, CE213)
- 21 Church Offices Closed
- 21 Blue Angels Bible Study, 12PM (MB2)
- 21 Cancer Support Group, 12PM (Zoom)
- 21 Men's Monday PM Bible Study, 7PM (MB4)
- 22 Tuesday Women's AM Bible Study, 10AM (MB2)
- 22 Weeknight Women's Dinner, 6PM (Mexican Bar Co.)
- 22 Women's Pilgrimage Renewal, 5:30PM (Narthex)
- 22 Weeknight Prayer Group, 7PM (Parlor)
- 22 Family Ministries Committee Meeting, 7PM (Zoom)
- 22 Finance Committee Meeting, 7PM (MB2)
- 22 Worship & Music Committee Meeting, 7PM (MB4)
- 23 Reviewer's Book Club, 10AM (Wheelus Hall)
- 23 Women of Wonder Bible Study, 10:30AM (MB4)
- 23 ESL, 5:30PM
- 23 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, 7PM
- 24 Generations of Grace Bible Study, 7PM (MB4)
- 24 Men's Pilgrimage Renewal, 7PM (Carradine's)
- 25 Men's Friday AM Bible Study, 8AM (MB2)
- 25 Jigsaw Puzzler's Group Meeting, 7PM
- 27 Blood Drive

