GRACE NEWS JUNE 29, 2025

Grace Family,

I believe in the American ideal as our Declaration of Independence sets it out: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all [Humans] are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness." Of course, this ideal did not start with the founders of our nation. People have longed for freedom throughout human history.

Scripture confirms that our notion of freedom and the desire for it is God's will for us. God sent plagues to Egypt in order to free the Hebrew slaves (Exodus 6-14). The Psalms confirm that God executes justice for the oppressed, gives food to the hungry, and sets the prisoner free (Ps 146). Isaiah reports that God will loose the bonds of injustice, let the oppressed go free, and break every yoke (Isaiah 58). Jesus proclaims as he teaches in the synagogue in Luke 4 that part of his mission is to set the captive free. Paul, in Romans chapter 8, looks forward to the day when all creation will be set free from its bondage to decay and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. In our sermon text for this Sunday, Paul writes to the Galatians proclaiming that Christ has set us free (Galatians 5:1, 13-26). There is no doubt that God's good will for humans created in His image is freedom: physical, emotional, mental and spiritual freedom.

Join us this Sunday at 10:30am as we worship God enthusiastically and celebrate our freedom in Christ.

Philippians 1:3, Tracey

# **Get Involved**

# **Sermons Coming in July and August**

"Dear Church...love, Jesus"

A look at the letters to the churches in Revelation

At the beginning of Revelation, John sees the Risen Christ in a vision. Jesus tells him to write to the seven churches in Asia Minor (modern day Turkey) to give them a message regarding what they are doing right, and where they have missed the boat. There might just be a message for our church as well.

July 6 July 13 July 20	Dear Church in Ephesus Dear Church in Smyrna Dear Church in Pergamum	Rev. 2:1-7 Rev. 2:8-11 Rev. 2:12-17
July 27	Sarah Rutherford preaching	
August 3	Dear Church in Thyatira	Rev. 2:18-29
August 10	Dear Church in Sardis	Rev. 3:1-6
August 17	Dear Church in Philadelphia	Rev. 3:7-13
August 24	Dear Church in Laodicea	Rev. 3:14-22

# **Godly Play**

There will be no Godly Play this Sunday or during the month of July. Godly Play will return this fall. If you would like to help in Godly Play, or with children's ministries, check your connection card and let us know.



## <u>Presbyterian Children's Homes & Services (PCHAS)</u> <u>Bible Fundraiser - June 20-30</u>

PCHAS has asked for our support in providing bibles for the children, youth, and young adults they support that are currently in foster care. We are being asked to provide:

# <u>Qty.</u> <u>Bibles</u>

- 3 NIrV, Adventure Bible for Early Readers
- 4 The Adventure Bible
- 12 The CEB Student Bible
- 6 The New Oxford Annotated Bible

The mission committee is asking for cash donations, and they will purchase the bibles to be picked up by PCHAS. If you would like to participate, write a check to Grace with PCHAS bibles on the memo line, or give online, and choose missions as the account. The drive will end on June 30. If you have any questions, contact Susan Hasek at s75075@yahoo.com.

# <u>Weeknight Women's Summer Service Project - July 17</u>

It's time for the Weeknight Women's Dinner Group's annual service project. This year we are partnering with the Legacy Knit & Crochet Club to make the pompoms to top off their beautifully crafted hats. Last year GracePC did a yarn drive to help this organization make over 5000 hats and scarves for people in need! No knitting required. Just bring a heavy appetizer or sweet treat to share and your beverage of choice. We are meeting on Thursday, July 17, at 6pm at the home of Kris Turner. Check your connection card, or click on the RSVP email link in your newsletter email to help us with preparations.



# College Pool Party - June 29

The Young Adult ministry is planning a swim party hosted by Brad and Ann Boles on Sunday, June 29<sup>th</sup> from 6:00pm – 8:00pm at their home on 1116 Lakestream Drive, Plano for all college aged members of our congregation. If you have completed your freshman year of college through 2025 graduating seniors or in that age group you are invited to join us for fellowship, food, fun, and swimming. Contact Pastor Wilson or Teri Waite if you have any questions.

We would love to have you join us!

A group of our young adults out at trivia night!













# **God's Garden Adoption - Sign-Ups Begin!**

It takes a village! Our 2 gardening workdays a year cannot keep up with what is needed for our gardens, so on June 29, God's Gardener's will reveal a new garden adoption plan for our property. They have divided up the garden's at Grace and are asking for the congregation's help. You, your family, your small group, or even a Sunday School class are being asked to adopt one of the 16 identified gardens. You will then be responsible for caring for that small space through the year. We will set up a communications plan if you need to make purchases or have any additional needs for your garden. Nicci Walker and Melinda Shiff will also be happy to consult or answer any questions. Please prayerfully consider helping to keep our grounds beautiful. Click on the email link in your newsletter to participate, or if you have any questions.

# **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!





# God's Gardner's Adopt a Bed

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#### Zones

- 1 East Narthex 2 pots & 2 beds
- 2 Bible Garden
- **3** Triangle Bed
- 4 Bed at East AC Unit
- 5 Triangle sign near Park Blvd.
- 6 East Bed by Workroom Door
- 7 Rose Garden
- 8 Labyrinth Entry
- 9 2 North Labyrinth Beds
- 10 3 South Labyrinth Beds
- 11 Children's Labyrinth Garden
- 12 Beds By Walkway outside of covered entry
- 13 Beds Bordering CE Walkway
- 14 Arbor Beds
- 15 West Narthex 2 pots & 2 beds
- 16 Crepe Myrtles around building

#### Who Can Adopt Beds?

Families Bible Study Groups Sunday School Classes Boy Scouts Girl Scouts Small Groups Youth Groups Friend Groups Men's Groups Women's Groups

It takes a village! Our 2 workdays a year cannot keep up with what is required for our gardens. So, let's work together throughout the year, and spend our annual two workdays beautifying for Christmas and Easter!



# **Sanctuary Flowers**

Fresh flowers add beauty and interest to almost any setting, and worship services at Grace PC are no exception. To honor or memorialize a notable individual or event while enhancing the worship experience of others, please consider visiting <u>www.gracepc.org</u>, clicking on the Sanctuary Flower Order Form link, and donating a floral arrangement. If you prefer, a binder located in the Narthex provides an alternative method through which to volunteer.

Once you have completed the sign-up form, you will be contacted shortly before the selected donation date to confirm the details of your gift, such as the name of the person or event being honored or memorialized and floral preferences. The suggested financial contribution to cover the cost of each arrangement is \$100 and can be handled in a number of ways. Payment options and additional details are included on the sign-up form.

If you should have questions or need assistance with completing the sign-up form for floral donations, please contact Paul Henning in the church office at 469-429-6803, or by email at <u>paul@gracepc.org</u>.





Affirmations & Thank You's Grace Church, Thank you very much for your support for the last five years while I have been away at college, and for honoring me with the Toberman Award. Grace has long been a supportive community, spreading Gods' love, and I am grateful for the wonderful servants of the Lord confinuing to lead GPC. Thank You! Fritz Balbinot

# **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 to be added to our efforts to connect to the Lord and the community. Every week, God responds and answers.

- 25 new members in the last 12 months, 9 in the last 2 months!
- Barb Walters successful hip surgery!
- Jim Caldwell now down 150 pounds!

# Want to Learn?



MB2

MB3

MB4

# Summer Adult Sunday School

Bible Boomers, will return in fall Wheelus Hall CE204/205 Koinonia, will return in the fall Trinity, 9am through June Visions of Faith, see below Word of Life, 11:30am - Currently studying Hebrews

# Summer Series on World Religions - July 13

The Visions of Faith Sunday School class is hosting a summer series on world religions from July 13 through August 24. The class will meet in MB3 at 9:15am. All are invited for both learning and fellowship.

# Weekly Bible Study Opportunities

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

\*\*\* Class will resume in the fall.



# Calendar

### JUNE

- 27 VBS Showcase, 5:30PM
- 27 VBS Popsicle Party, 6PM
- 28 Ron Nauta Memorial Service, 2:30PM
- 29 Trinity SS, 9:15AM (MB2)
- 29 Summer Combined Worship, 10:30AM
- 29 Word of Life SS, 11:30AM (MB4)
- 29 Prayer Group Meeting, 4PM (MB2)
- 30 Men's Monday PM Bible Study, 7PM (MB4)

## JULY

- 1 Tues. AM Women's Bible Study, 10AM (MB2)
- 1 Nurture Council Meeting, 1:30PM (MB2)
- 1 Day School Committee Meeting, 7PM (Zoom)
- 2 Career Transitions Support Group, 9AM (MB2)
- 2 Summer ESL, 5:30PM (MB2)
- 3 Men's Pilgrimage Renewal, 7PM
- 4 Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July
- 4 Church Offices Closed
- 5 Men's Saturday AM Bible Study, 8:30AM (MB2)
- 5 Gotta Have Fun Game Night, 6:30PM (CE204/205)
- 6 Summer Combined Worship, 10:30AM
- 6 Godly Play, 10:45AM (Godly Play Worship Center, CE213)
- 6 Word of Life SS, 11:30AM (MB4)
- 6 Prayer Group Meeting, 4PM (MB2)