

# GRACE NEWS

June 8, 2025

Grace Family,

This Sunday is Pentecost – one of my favorite Sundays of the church year. It is the day we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples fifty days after the resurrection. It's known as the birthday of the church. But Presbyterians rarely talk about the Spirit, and we are poorer for it.

Who is the Holy Spirit? The Holy Spirit is a Person – the third Person of the Trinity, along with the Father and the Son. This Someone comes to dwell in and among believers in Jesus Christ, uniting us with God, binding us together in community, giving us gifts, opening up the meaning of the Scriptures, imparting peace and strength, enabling our witness, and transforming us into the image of Christ.

There are three metaphors in Scripture to help us understand who the Spirit is and what the Spirit does: water, wind, and fire (John 7:37-39; Acts 2:1-21). Those are broad metaphors. Water can be a trickling stream or a hurricane. Wind can be a cool ocean breeze or a tornado. Fire can be a warm campfire on a fall evening or a blazing, scorching force.

Have you ever felt the Spirit of God, gently or powerfully, in your life?

Join us this Sunday at 10:30am as we worship God enthusiastically, welcome Exultation home as the last stop on their tour, and celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

Philippians 1:3,

*Tracey*

# Get Involved

## Jigsaw Puzzle Giveaway - June 8

**PUZZLED** about how to spend the hot days of summer? The Jigsaw Puzzlers are having a **FREE** puzzle give-a way this Sunday, June 8, in the narthex. We have received lots of wonderful donations and need shelf room! Drop by the table and take a few home.

We are in the process of finding a place for a puzzle library. We'll keep you posted!

## VBS Volunteer Meeting - June 8

All VBS volunteers are encouraged to attend a VBS volunteer meeting this Sunday, June 8 at 11:45am in CE204/205.

## **Minnie's Breakfast Drive - Ends June 21**

Are you ready to make a difference in your community? From June 7 through June 21, 2025, we're hosting a special drive to collect shelf stable breakfast foods and granola bars for Minnie's Food Pantry that focuses on kids at home during the summer.

By contributing these simple yet impactful items, you'll help Minnie's Food Pantry continue its mission of delivering dignity and sustenance to all who walk through its doors.

Contact Helen Blacklock, at [kids-ot@hotmail.com](mailto:kids-ot@hotmail.com) with any questions.

## **Scam Alert**

Churches are a favorite target for scammers. Remember the church staff will never text or email anyone to ask for a favor or for money. Please report and block all such texts or emails.

## **Pentecost Sunday - June 8**

We will be celebrating Pentecost Sunday this week. Our tradition at Grace is to wear red to worship. In addition we collect the Pentecost offering. The offering is one of the four denominational offerings collected each year. We retain 40% of this offering to be used to support work with at-risk children, youth and young adults in our local community. Our mission committee will choose which local group our offerings will support. You will find a red pentecost envelope in your bulletin, or you can choose Pentecost offering in the dropdown account box if you choose to pay online.

## **Spice of Life Lunch - June 11**

Seniors (50+), join us this Wednesday, June 11, for our monthly Spice of Life lunch. The team will be serving King Ranch Chicken Casserole and salad. Please bring either pico de gallo, salsa, beans or dessert to share. As always, we begin at noon, and we look forward to seeing everyone there.

## **Weeknight Women - June 16**

Ladies, the June Weeknight Women's dinner finds us at Yatai Ramen at Park & Coit on Monday, June 16, at 6PM. This a fun and relaxing evening of food, drinks and lively conversation. If you are looking for some fun girl time, join us. For planning purposes, if you are interested in participating, check your connection card, or click on the email link in your newsletter email and let Laurie Kneeland know.

## **Capital Campaign Update**

**Total pledged: \$1,218,904**

**Total given so far: \$357,586**

### **Current work:**

- 1. Work on the corroded plumbing has finished, which prepares the way for our bathroom/kitchen upgrades.**
- 2. We have signed the contract for the fire alarm updates. Work should begin shortly.**

**Thank you, Grace Family, for your generous giving!**

## **VBS Breakroom Donations Needed!**

**If you are able to provide snacks for the VBS break room please either check your connection card on Sunday, or click on the email link in your newsletter email, and let Paula Wilder know you are willing to help.**

## **VBS Volunteers Needed!**

**VBS is looking for volunteers to serve on the decorating and demo teams. Rachel Dicharry is the decorating lead, and would love to talk with anyone with questions. Check your connection card and drop it in the offering plate.**

## **VBS Giftcard Drive**

**Family Ministries is once again asking for the congregation to support one of our largest community outreach events, VBS, by purchasing giftcards from either Michael's, Walmart, or Home Depot. The giftcards will be used to purchase supplies needed for the week. Please drop off giftcards in Pastor Cara's mailbox.**

# Affirmations & Thank You's

## Exultation Giving Tree



**Thank you to everyone who supported this year's Exultation Mission Tour. The choir will return this weekend and present their home concert during worship this Sunday at 10:30am.**

## Senior Sunday



**Congratulations to all of our graduates, and thank you especially to Elise Goldsmith and Bryanna Nana for sharing such inspiring messages last Sunday. Congratulations also to Bryanna for being awarded the Rusty Dubberly scholarship, and to Fritz Balbinot and Caroline Moore for earning the Tobermann scholarship for community service. We are proud of all of you!**



# 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.

- Becca, Anne Bowman's sister-in-law, had successful cancer surgery and is on track for full recovery!
- Melissa Payton received positive news on her liver and is feeling well!
- Lonnie, friend of Anita Priest, has recovered from bone marrow surgery and is cancer free!

# 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!

# Want to Learn?

We have moved to our summer schedule. There is NO children's and youth Sunday School during the summer.

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

**Youth School Year  
Sunday School 10AM**

## Summer Adult Sunday School

Bible Boomers, will return in fall  
Koinonia, will return in the fall  
Trinity, 9am through June  
Visions of Faith, will return in fall  
Word of Life, 11:30am

Wheelus Hall  
CE204/205  
MB2  
MB3  
MB4

## **Visions of Faith Summer Evening Series Opportunity**

If you enjoyed the Esther series, but missed some episodes, we are going to have a 2nd showing! It runs a little over 2 hours. We're doing it Thursday, June 12th at 6:30. Location is TBD, depending on how many RSVPs we get. We'll order some pizza. BYOW or other beverage 😊  
We'll have movie popcorn too 🍿

Please RSVP to this [cathybebee@gmail.com](mailto:cathybebee@gmail.com) by Monday the 9th.

## 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	MB4
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

- 7 Men's Saturday AM Bible Study, 8:30AM (MB2)**
- 7 Pilgrimage Council Meeting, 9AM (MB4)**
- 7 Gotta Have Fun Game Night, 6:30PM (CE204/205)**
- 8 Pentecost Sunday**
- 8 Summer Combined Worship, 10:30AM**
- 8 Exultation Choir Home Concert, 10:30AM**
- 8 Godly Play, 10:45AM (Godly Play Worship Center, CE213)**
- 8 Word of Life SS, 11:30AM (MB4)**
- 8 VBS Volunteer Meeting, 11:45AM (CE204/205)**
- 8 Prayer Group Meeting, 4PM (MB2)**
- 8 Early Church History Class, 6PM (Wheelus Hall)**
- 9 Men's Monday PM Bible Study, 7PM (MB4)**
- 10 Tuesday AM Women's Bible Study, 10AM (MB2)**
- 10 Women's Pilgrimage Renewal, 6PM (Parlor)**
- 10 Mission Committee Meeting, 7PM**
- 10 Tuesday PM Prayer Group, 7PM (Parlor)**
- 11 Women of Wonder Bible Study, 10:30AM (MB4)**
- 11 Spice of Life Luncheon, 12PM (Wheelus Hall)**
- 12 Visions of Faith Esther Movie, 6:30PM**
- 11 ESL Intermediate Class, 5:30PM (MB2)**
- 13 Men's Friday AM Bible Study, 8AM (MB2)**
- 13 Jigsaw Puzzler's Group Meeting, 7PM (Narthex)**
- 14 Quilt Ministry Meeting, 9AM (CE204/205)**
- 15 Happy Father's Day!**
- 15 Summer Combined Worship, 10:30AM**
- 15 Exultation Choir Home Concert, 10:30AM**
- 15 Godly Play, 10:45AM (Godly Play Worship Center, CE213)**
- 15 Word of Life SS, 11:30AM (MB4)**
- 15 Prayer Group Meeting, 4PM (MB2)**