

# GRACE NEWS

July 6, 2025

Grace Family,

Today we begin our summer sermon series: *“Dear Church, love Jesus.”* It’s a look at the letters to the seven churches in Asia Minor (modern day Turkey) in the book of Revelation. By the 90’s of the first century A. D., there were many more than seven churches in this part of the world. It may be that John only knew of seven of them. But it also may be that 7 is a significant number in Revelation, meaning complete or all-inclusive. By identifying 7 churches, John and Jesus wish to suggest the messages are intended for all churches, wherever and whenever they may be. The messages are intended for Grace Presbyterian Church in Plano, Texas in 2025.

Why write letters? When these were written, there was no choice. A letter was the only form of personal communication they had. No internet. No texts. No posts or private messages on Facebook. Even with all our current choices, letter writing remains good practice. The writer of a letter becomes more present, intently concentrating on the one person to whom they are writing, and blessing them with carefully chosen words. The receiver knows that someone took the time and energy to think about just them and will know and remember the words by holding something tangible, something real, pulling it back out of the drawer whenever they want.

I’ve decided to write more letters. I believe God is calling me to write letters of encouragement to our church. You may have already gotten one this week. If you would like one, just check the box on your connection card and I will concentrate on you, pray for you, and hopefully bless you with a message from Jesus.

**Join us this Sunday at 10:30am** as we worship God enthusiastically and delve into the letter Jesus writes to the church in Ephesus (Revelation 2:1-7).

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 13	Dear Church in Smyrna	Rev. 2:8-11
July 20	Dear Church in Pergamum	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

## Spice of Life Lunch - July 9

Seniors (50+), join us on Wednesday, July 9, at noon in Wheelus Hall for an old fashioned picnic lunch of hamburgers and hotdogs. The team will provide the burgers and dogs will all of the trimmings, macaroni salad, and coleslaw. You are asked to bring either fruit, veggies, a salad, chips, or a dessert to share. See you then!





## **Weeknight Women's Summer Service Project - July 17**

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.

## **Finance Update**

### Capital Campaign Update

Pledged: \$1,219,204.00    Given: \$386,264.13

### General Operating Fund Update

Pledged: \$822,777.20    Given: \$507,019.91

Thank you, Grace Family, for your generous giving!

"You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity which will produce thanksgiving to God through us." 2 Corinthians 9:11





*Grace Presbytery and  
Grace Presbyterian Church  
cordially invite you to the*

# ORDINATION



*of*  
*Sarah Rutherford*  
*to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament  
in the Presbyterian Church (USA)*

SUNDAY | JULY 27 | AT 3 PM

Grace Presbyterian Church  
4300 W. Park Blvd.  
Plano, TX 75093

Reception to follow in Wheelus Hall







## **God's Garden Adoption – Sign-Ups Continue!**

It takes a village! Our 2 gardening workdays a year cannot keep up with what is needed for our gardens, so, God's Gardener's has revealed 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. You may also check your connection card and drop it in the offering plate on Sunday. Thank you for your generosity of time!



## God's Gardner's Adopt a Bed

### 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!

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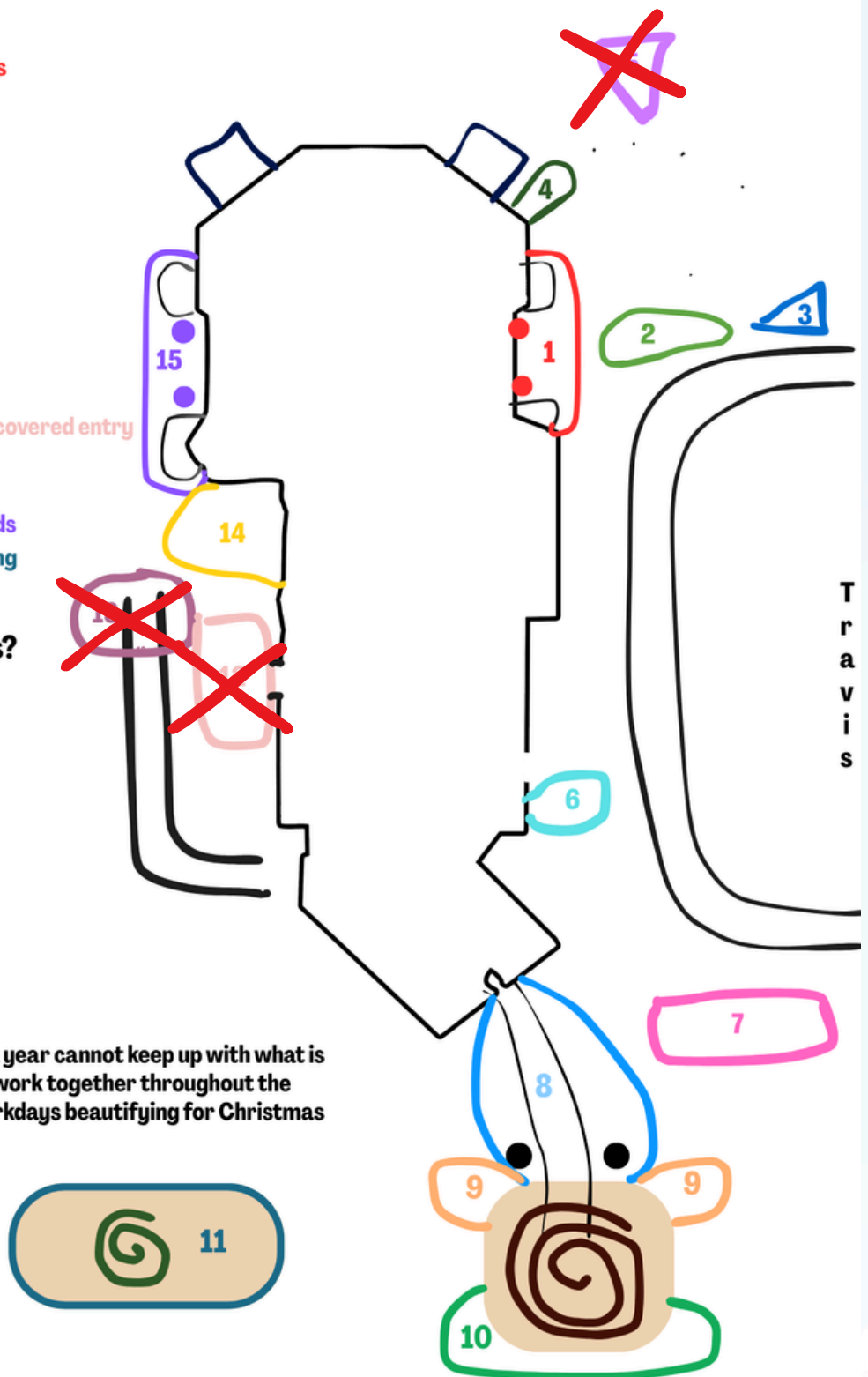
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## June New Members

Several new families have joined Grace, and you know what's coming- just who was their favorite musical group or artist as a teenager?

**Travis Eckert:** Powerman 5000 and Coal Chamber (I know...you've never heard of them, but- Coal Chamber does a pretty cool cover of Shock the Monkey, by Peter Gabriel- check it out on Spotify!)

**Alison Krauss:** Green Day (love this pick!)



**Asif Masih:** Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan (Check him out on Spotify- has 9 million monthly listeners, twice the number of Styx, ouch!)

**Salma Asif:** Atif Aslam (Check him out on Spotify also. Are you ready? A whopping 27 million monthly listeners. What does that equate to? It's the same as the Rolling Stones...holy cow)

**Children: Souzaina (14), Sinthyea(10), Joel(4)**



**Meghan Horton:** Lemonheads (it was a struggle between Counting Crows, Toad the Wet Sprocket, and Lemonheads, but alas...Lemonheads for the win!)

**Children: Michael(12)**





# Affirmations & Thank You's

Thank you to everyone who prayed for and generously gave of their time and energy to VBS! We had about 135 children attend and over 40 volunteers participate in the week of VBS. Many thanks to Julia Blonk for organizing all our supplies! Also, a special thank you to everyone who stayed until 2pm to make VBS extended a wonderful experience!

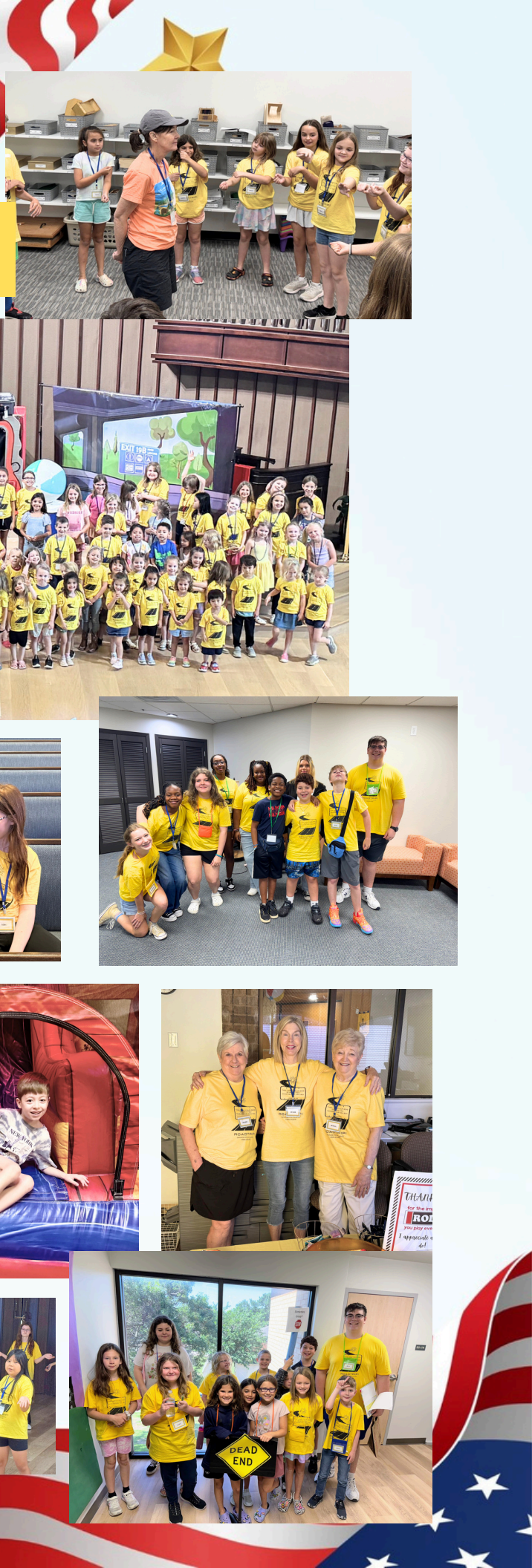


Thank you to Mario Pribadi, who donated his box suite for the Roughriders game on Sunday, June 19<sup>th</sup>, for our wonderful family ministry and adult discipleship volunteers to enjoy a night out at the ballpark!



Thank you to Ann and Brad Boles for opening their home in the middle of the night for a midnight swim as part of our youth lock-in! In addition Erin Booke for taking the 1<sup>st</sup> chaperone shift of the youth lockin and to Bryan Raaum for taking the late night/early morning shift.





# VBS 2025







# 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.

- Gary Ford's knee surgery was a success and rehab is underway!
- VBS was extremely successful once again!
- Bella Jones healing much quicker than expected from surgery and made it to Worship this week!





# Want to Learn?

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

## **Summer Adult Sunday School**

<b>Bible Boomers</b> , will return in fall	Wheelus Hall
<b>Koinonia</b> , will return in the fall	CE204/205
<b>Trinity</b> , off in July - will resume on Aug. 3	MB2
<b>Visions of Faith</b> , see below	MB3
<b>Word of Life</b> , 11:30am - Currently studying Hebrews	MB4

## **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

## JULY

- 4 Happy Independence Day
- 4 Church Offices Closed
- 5 Men's Saturday AM Bible Study, 8:30AM (MB2)
- 5 Gotta Have Fun Game Night, 6:30PM (Grace Place)
- 6 Summer Combined Worship, 10:30AM
- 6 Word of Life SS, 11:30AM (MB4)
- 6 Prayer Group Meeting, 4PM (MB2)
- 7 Cancer Support Group Meeting, 12PM (Zoom)
- 7 Men's Monday PM Bible Study, 7PM (MB4)
- 8 Tuesday AM Women's Bible Study, 10AM (MB2)
- 8 Women's Pilgrimage Renewal, 6PM (Parlor)
- 8 Mission Committee Meeting, 7PM (MB4)
- 8 Evening Prayer Group, 7PM (Parlor)
- 9 Spice of Life Luncheon, 12PM (Wheelus Hall)
- 9 Summer ESL, 5:30PM (MB2)
- 9 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, 7PM
- 11 Men's Friday AM Bible Study, 8AM (MB2)
- 11 Jigsaw Puzzle Group Meeting, 7PM (Narthex)
- 12 Quilt Ministry Meeting, 9AM (CE204/205)
- 13 Summer Combined Worship, 10:30AM
- 13 Word of Life SS, 11:30AM (MB4)
- 13 Prayer Group Meeting, 4PM (MB2)
- 14-18 SMACK
- 18 SMACK Musical

