

GRACE NEWS

October 26 | 2025

Grace Family,

Have you ever been left out, overlooked, rejected? Maybe uninvited to an event that everyone else you knew would be at? We all at some point feel that way. When I was looking for my second call after seminary, two different Pastor Nominating Committees thought that “Tracey” was a man’s name on my application. Once they heard my voice, I was uninvited to meet with them. It’s an awful feeling when people don’t want to be with us. The desire to be loved and wanted is common ground among all humanity.

In both our Scripture readings this Sunday, someone is uninvited to be a part of the event. Young David is left out in the field to tend the sheep when Samuel is looking for a king (1 Samuel 16:1-13). A “sinful woman” (we aren’t told her name) is uninvited to a dinner for Jesus (Luke 7:36-50). Both stories show us that God sees so much more in other people than we do.

I wonder what this truth calls us to be and to do as church?

Join us this Sunday at 10:30am as we worship God enthusiastically and remember that Every Single Person Matters to Jesus!

Philippians 1:3,

Tracey

Get Involved

Upcoming Sermon Texts

Every Single Person Matters to Jesus

November 2	Luke 7:11-17	A Widow
November 9	Luke 5:17-26	A Paralytic
November 16	Luke 9:10-17	A Hungry Crowd
November 23	Luke 23:32-43	The Thief on the Cross

Minnie's Thanksgiving Collection **October 27 thru November 9**

Minnie's Food Pantry has over 3000 families signed up to receive a Thanksgiving meal box and have asked Grace to help provide boxes of macaroni and cheese. Beginning Monday, Oct. 27, we will be collecting boxes of macaroni & cheese. Please leave your donation on the table in the narthex. The drive ends on Nov. 9.

Remembering the Saints - November 2

All-Saints is a day reserved to remember those who have passed into God's eternal realm. This year it is celebrated on November 2nd and we want to invite each of you to share stories of your loved ones. We will post all the ones we receive on the morning of All-Saints Day.

If you want to receive a digital version, contact Mike Shaw at mike.usingyourbest@outlook.com and he will send you a form to complete. Or note it on your Connection Card on Sunday. A picture of your choosing should be included in a JPEG format. If you want to submit in manually, copies are available in the Narthex and there is a box to leave your completed information, We will get photos back to you, if requested.

Submit one or more and let's keep their memory alive. Any questions, please email or call Mike at 469-223-6813. Everything must be completed prior to October 26th to be included.

Property Workday - November 8

The property committee is holding a church wide outdoor workday on Saturday, November 8 starting at 9AM. We need all of our gardeners to come out to help in our clean up efforts of the beds before winter arrives. If you are able to attend, please use the email link in your newsletter email and let Kris know.

Blood Drive - November 9



Our final blood drive of the year is just four Sundays away! On Sunday, November 9 from 9:30a - 12:30p, the Carter BloodCare Bus will be in our west parking lot. We are beginning signups now. If you would like to donate the gift of life, please use the signup link in your newsletter, or check your connection card and it will be emailed to you.

Spice of Life Lunch - November 12

Seniors (50+), you are invited to join us in Wheelus Hall on Wednesday, November 12, for a Mexican lunch of chicken enchiladas with rice and beans. Please bring either vegetables, salad, fruit or a dessert to share.

Kitchen Team Updates

Our kitchen team has begun to clean out and organize the counters, cabinets, drawers, and refrigerator. The entire bottom of the refrigerator is filled with different bottles/cans of water/drinks. They do not know whose they are or how long they have been there, so you have until the end of the month to either take or label any liquids you would like to be kept, and on Nov. 1 all unlabelled containers will be thrown away. Thank you for your help.

College Care Packages

The Young Adult Ministry is preparing to send out College Care Packages to our GPC students soon! If you'd like your college student to receive a special package from their GPC family, please send their name and mailing address to Tanya Valenta at tanya@gracepc.org.

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to Teri Waite at teriwate85@gmail.com.

We hope this small gesture reminds our students that their GPC family is thinking of them and lifting them up in prayer as they wrap up the semester.

Family Ministry Events

Children's Ministry Service Project - November 1

Our children (Preschool-5th gd.) will gather on Saturday, Nov. 1, from 1-3pm to assemble meal kits for our own Little Food Pantry. In addition, the children will be writing/drawing cards of encouragement for our friends who take these bags. If you have any questions, please contact Caroline Werner at caroline.werner9@gmail.com

Children's Ministry Mini-VBS - Tuesday, November 4

Join us on Tuesday, November 4, from 9am to 2PM (bring a sack lunch) for a fun day of bible stories, crafts, games and more!

- Ages Current Kindergarten - 5th grade
- \$20 Registration fee/child
- \$10 Sibling Discount per Sibling - Use code SIBLINGDISCOUNT
- Scholarships are available.

We need youth and adult volunteers to help with the event. Please contact Pastor Cara (cara@gracepc.org) to sign up to volunteer. Parents, use the link in your email newsletter to sign up your students to participate.

New Members

Jack Bradley

Jack Bradley joined our Grace family in September. And you know what's coming next- that's right, favorite musical group or artist as a teenager.

Jack's favorite group- Chicago Transit Authority, otherwise known as....Chicago. Check 'em out on Spotify this week, and refresh your memory of just how good they were.



John & Marilyn Weymer

John and Marilyn Weymer joined our Grace family in October! We all know what's coming next, and that is- favorite musical group as a teenager.

John: Allman Brothers (a solid pick here)

Marilyn: Procol Harum (a band I had never heard of, but when I mention to others, everyone says "oh yeah- a whiter shade of pale". (I'm just too comfortable under my rock)



Please introduce yourself and welcome Jack, John and Marilyn when you see them!

Affirmations

Our youth ministry thanks Patrick Idom and Teri Waite for being drivers for the Sunday School field trip last Sunday. We appreciate your time and commitment to our youth ministry.

Children's Service Project: Little Free Pantry Meals

Our children are leading a special service project to support our Little Free Pantry! They are collecting food items that can be combined into complete meals for our neighbors in need. Each meal kit will include ingredients, a simple recipe, and a handwritten card of encouragement from the kids.

Our families will be contributing, but we need your help to reach as many neighbors as possible. Donations can be dropped off in the narthex beginning this Sunday, October 19 through Sunday, October 26. You're welcome to bring one item or several—every contribution helps, and together we'll make sure the bags are complete! If your child is planning on participating on Saturday, Nov. 1, please check your connection card and let us know, or use your email link in your newsletter email.

We plan to make: Five Can Chili

- 16 oz can of black beans
- 16 oz can of kidney beans
- 16 oz can of pinto beans
- 16 oz can of tomato sauce
- 10 oz can of diced tomatoes and green chilis (Rotel)
- 1 packet chili seasoning
- Optional: Cornbread mix with an individual applesauce cup

Breakfast Bags

- Granola bar, cereal bar or protein bar (please, no chocolate-covered items that will melt)
- Oatmeal cup, or individual cereal cup with a box of milk
- Juice box
- Fruit Cup

Birthday Cakes

- Foil pan big enough to bake a cake
- Boxed cake mix
- 12 oz can of soda (Coke works well with darker cakes and Sprite works well with lighter cakes, but feel free to experiment!)
- Can of frosting
- Candles

Your GracePC Deacons

Did you know that each Grace PC member is assigned a deacon? Deacons have all sorts of important responsibilities at Grace. They serve Communion in worship and in the homes of members. They welcome new people into our community. They collect prayer concerns and pray. They arrange for meals and rides when folks need them. They make hospital visits, and they occasionally reach out to each one of you. Members of our congregation are grouped and assigned to a deacon by last name in alphabetical order. (Note that if you are married, and you and your spouse have different last names, your assigned deacon is based on the last name of the spouse listed as the primary contact in CCB) If you aren't sure who your assigned deacon is, it's really easy. Just go to gracepc.org/deacons or click the link in your newsletter email.

We are excited to continue encouraging, serving, and caring for our community!

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.

- Pilgrimage #54 was a tremendous success!
- Jim Caldwell has now lost 175 pounds!
- 20 New Members, so far, in 2025!

Want to Learn?

Education for All on Sundays - 9:15am

Adult Sunday School

Bible Boomers , @9:15am - Continuing studying the Gospel of John	MB4
Koinonia , @9:15am, beginning a survey of the Hebrew Bible Prophets with parallels to more modern prophetic voices.	CE204/205
Trinity @9:15am - studying writings from the time of the Babylonian Exile, including selections from Ezekiel, Kings, Jeremiah, and Isaiah.	MB2
Visions of Faith , @9:15am - continuing its study of The Welcoming Congregation, focusing on the Fruits of Hospitality - Reconciliation and Outreach.	MB3
Word of Life , @11:30am - Currently studying 1 Samuel	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
Room: Sanctuary
Michael King, Director

Exultation Choir

Youth choir for grades 6 – 12
Sundays, 4:00 – 5:15pm
Room: Sanctuary
Michael King, Director

Voices in Praise (VIPs)

Children's choir for grades 2 – 5
Sundays, 4 – 4:45pm
Room: CE215
Hannah Allen, Director

Cherub Choir

Children's choir for PK thru 1st gd.
Sundays, 9:15AM
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 – 3:45pm
Room: CE204/205
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, hannah@gracepc.org

Michael King – Exultation, Grace Notes, Sanctuary Choir, michael@gracepc.org

Katie Schnittker – Credo Director, Agape Bells Director katie.schnittker@gmail.com

Michelle Rutherford – Carillon Ringers Director, mmrutherford1@sbcglobal.net

Calendar

OCTOBER

24 Weeknight Women's Dinner Group, 6PM (Blue Mesa)
24 Jigsaw Puzzle Group Meeting, 7PM
25 Mission Grace, 9AM
26 Reformation Sunday
26 Bible Boomer's SS, 9:15AM (MB4)
26 Trinity SS, 9:15AM (MB2)
26 Visions of Faith SS, 9:15AM (MB3)
26 Quilt Sale & Silent Auction, 9:30AM (narthex)
26 Worship, 10:30AM
26 Godly Play, 10:45AM (Godly Play Worship Center, CE213)
26 Word of Life SS, 11:30AM (MB4)
26 Credo Rehearsal, 2:45PM (Sanctuary)
26 Carillon Ringers Rehearsal, 3PM (CE204/205)
26 Voices in Praise Rehearsal, 4PM (CE215)
26 Prayer Group, 4PM (MB2)
26 Grace Notes Rehearsal, 5:45PM (Sanctuary)
26 Fall Festival, 5PM
27 Blue Angels Study Group, 12PM (MB2)
27 Men's Monday PM Bible Study, 7PM (MB4)
28 Tuesday Women's AM Bible Study, 10AM (MB2)
28 Women's Pilgrimage Renewal, 6PM (narthex)
28 Grief Group, 7PM (Wheelus Hall)
28 Tuesday Evening Prayer Group, 7PM (Parlor)
28 Deacon Meeting, 7PM (CE204/205)
29 Women of Wonder Bible Study, 10:30AM (MB4)
29 ESL, 5:30PM
29 Citizenship Class, 6:45PM
29 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, 7PM
30 Generations of Grace Women's Bible Study, 7PM (MB2)
31 Men's Friday AM Bible Study, 8AM (MB2)