

# GRACE NEWS

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SEPTEMBER 15 | 2024

Dear Grace Members and Friends,

Last Sunday, Pastor Tracey kicked off our sermon series on discipleship as she preached on what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ in the 21st century. This Sunday we are going to look at discipleship through a different lens. What we will be discussing this Sunday is almost hard for me to put into words. And while a discussion that's hard to define sounds like a recipe for sermon-writing disaster, hear me out. You know how difficult experiences and feelings can change us? They can lead us to doubt ourselves. They can weaken us or lead us to fear. Yet, difficulties can also lead us to places of great depth, strength, love, and faith. This is especially true if we face life's challenges together; and even more so if we know that the someone standing next to us has faced a similar path or similar pain.

Maybe it's hard to define, but I know this reality is true because I've personally experienced it on more than one occasion: There is something profoundly powerful when a neighbor walks through the storm with me. It leads to greater depths of faith, love, and belief that the image of God exists within each and every one of my neighbors. It makes Christ's love for me more visible and my desire to share his love with the world more of a priority.

Something changes within us when we carry the burdens of one another, when we're vulnerable, and when we offer each other hope. It illumines the love of Christ in our world. So how do we do it? It sounds pretty radical to be vulnerable in a world full of high walls and facades. So just how, exactly, do we practically disciple in such a way? And what can Paul's super short letter to this guy named Philemon from 2,000 years ago teach us about our faith today? Join us at 9 a.m. and 11:05 a.m. as we worship together and learn about the importance of vulnerability as disciples of Jesus Christ.

Peace,  
Wilson

## **Upcoming Sermons**

September 22	Intergenerational Discipleship
September 29	Respectful Conviction
October 6	Discipleship in a Multi-Cultural Setting
October 13	Witnessing to Christ in the 21st Century

## **Get Involved at Grace**

### **Grief Group - Sept. 24**

The Grief Group at Grace has now been helping people for over 10 years and we will be starting our next group on Sept. 24. We meet in person from 7PM to 9PM. We have expanded it to 8 weeks and we utilize curriculum from a local organization, Faith & Grief Ministries. This is an extension of Stephen Ministry at Grace. There is a link in the newsletter email or you may contact Mike Shaw at [broncosrbest@verizon.net](mailto:broncosrbest@verizon.net) (469-223-6813) for more information. Module topics are shown on the webpage by selecting the link.

### **The Path to Forgiveness**

#### **Mondays at 7pm September 30-November 4**

"Unforgiveness will kill you," argues Dr. Dick Tibbits in *Forgive to Live*. It takes a scientifically proven physical and emotional toll on us. Unforgiveness takes a spiritual toll on us as well. It is unacceptable for a Christian not to forgive. We even pray, "forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors." Yet, so many of us struggle with it. If you have trouble forgiving someone else, if you have trouble forgiving yourself, or if you want to help a friend or family member who is hurting, join us for this 6-week class that will bring healing to your heart, mind, and spirit. See Pastor Tracey FMI.

## **Women of Grace High Tea - Oct. 12**

Join the Women of Grace for High Tea on Saturday, October 12th at 3:00 p.m. The tea will be held in Wheelus Hall and we will serve tea, cocoa, finger sandwiches and desserts. This celebration is for all ages so bring your daughters, mothers, and friends. Dress up if you like “fancy” tea parties. Or, come as you are. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children and can be purchased through the signup tab on the website, or use the link in your newsletter email.

The Women of Grace, in conjunction with the Mission Committee, will also use this opportunity collect items to benefit City House in Plano. City House was founded in 1988 by two PISD educators to help homeless young people in Plano. City House has an emergency shelter, transitional residential living homes and street outreach programs and services to help at risk children, youth, and young adults. Please consider donating paper towels, toilet paper, laundry detergent and/or hand soap to help City House continue to serve this vulnerable population.



**City House**

Protecting youth.  
Empowering change.  
Transforming lives.

# Mission Updates

## PCHAS Golf Tournament

Dear Friends of PCHAS:

Trinity Presbyterian Church in McKinney will again host the Wes Geary Memorial Golf Tournament, benefitting PCHAS. which is in its 12th year, and I wanted to personally invite any golf-lovers to join us. Links below include information. **Registration is now open!!**

### **Wes Geary Memorial Golf Tournament**

**Monday, October 7, 2024**

**Westridge Golf Course**

**9055 N. Cotton Ridge Road**

**McKinney, TX 75070**

The link for the tournament website, and the player sign-up link can be found in your newsletter email.

Tee Up!

Portia Stephens

### **Family Promise Dinner of Hope - Nov. 7**

Save the date for the 2nd annual Family Promise Dinner of Hope being held on Thursday evening, November 7th, at the Courtyard by Marriott Dallas-Allen. Stay tuned for more information.

## Minnie's Workday Recap

Saturday, September 7th, we had 14 people show up to volunteer at Minnie's Food Pantry. The line to have boxes of food placed into cars went around the building. A Minnie's staff member reported it was due to having fresh meat. We helped serve over 500 families. Thank you to all you served!



# THANK YOU



Thank you to Ann Boles and her fellowship committee for planning our Ice Cream for Breakfast Day. It was a great way to kick off our Sunday School year.

Pastor Cara offers a huge thank you to Wayne and Sybil Shuck for the countless hours they spent re-organizing the Godly Play Worship Center. Our children's worship experiences are important to Grace and we are excited for a new year of Godly Play.

# Prayers are being Answered!

Your Prayer Team meets every Sunday in MB2 to pray over the prayers that have been shared with us. We meet at 4 PM, if you would like to have personal hands-on prayer, or wish to join us. 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.

- Jim Caldwell is back in church and singing in the choir!
- Bob Meyer is on the road to recovery!
- Emily, Lorna's friend, is back working and regaining her strength!

## Children's Ministry

### Afternoon at the Park - Sept. 28

All families are invited to an afternoon of fun and fellowship at Preston Meadows Park on Saturday, September 28th from 2pm-4pm! Sign-up on the connection card or e-mail Pastor Cara at [cara@gracepc.org](mailto:cara@gracepc.org) if you plan to attend.

## Young Adult Ministry

Our next meeting will be this Sunday, September 15 at 12:15, at Cava (mediterranean) 1901 Preston Road.

Looking forward to seeing you then! If you are interested in learning more about the Young Adult program at GPC, please contact Bonnie Moreland at 972-523-1266 or Pastor Wilson.

# Youth Ministry

## **Youth Small Group Study – September 15th – October 6th**

All youth (6th-12th grade) are invited to a small group bible study! We will meet for 4 weeks for interactive discussions around what it means to be a disciple today. We will be exploring what insights Diedrich Bonehoeffer has on being a disciple of Christ. Dinner will be provided for those who participate in the study. Sign up on the connection card or e-mail Pastor Cara at [cara@gracepc.org](mailto:cara@gracepc.org)

## **Middle School Retreat at Camp Gilmont**

Save the Date!

November 2nd and 3rd

Sign-up information coming soon!

## **2024-2025 Medical Liability Forms Due**

Families, it's that time of year again! Time to turn in your Medical liability forms for the upcoming school year. Please fill out the form linked in your newsletter or pick up a paper copy on Sunday, fill it out, and then put your completed forms into Tanya Valenta's mailbox in the staff hallway. Thank you in advance for your help in getting these forms completed!



# Family Ministries

## Children's Sunday School - 10AM

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

## Youth Sunday School - 10AM

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

## Godly Play - 11:15AM

<u>Class</u>	<u>Room</u>
Godly Play	CE 213 (Godly Play Worship Center)

# 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

### **Agape Bells**

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

### **Credo**

High school handbells  
Sundays, 2:45 – 4:00pm  
Room: Sanctuary  
Katie Schnittker, Director

### **Tintinnabulators**

Middle school handbells  
Sundays, 2:45 – 3:45pm  
Room CE216  
Hannah Allen, Director

### **Carillon Ringers**

Children (Grades 3-5) Handbells  
Sundays, 3 - 4pm  
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, Tintinnabulators [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)

# Want to Learn?

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

**Youth School Year  
Sunday School  
10AM**

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

Bible Boomers	Wheelus Hall
Koinonia	CE204/205
Trinity	MB2
Visions of Faith	MB3
Word of Life	MB4

## **Weekly Bible Study Opportunities**

Mon. PM Men's Bible Study, 7-9PM	MB4
Mon. Blue Angels, 12-1:30PM	Wheelus Hall
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

# Calendar

## SEPTEMBER

- 13 Jigsaw Puzzler's Group Meeting, 7PM (CE204/205)
- 14 Quilt Ministry Meeting, 9AM (CE204/205)
- 14 Marcia Hansen Memorial Service, 2PM
- 15 Contemporary Worship, 9AM
- 15 Sunday School for All
- 15 Traditional Worship, 11:05AM
- 15 Godly Play, 11:15AM (CE213)
- 15 Credo Bell Rehearsal, 2:45PM (Sanctuary)
- 15 Tintinnabulators Bell Rehearsal, 2:45PM (CE216)
- 15 Carillon Ringers Rehearsal, 3PM (CE204/205)
- 15 Agape Bell Rehearsal, 4PM (CE204/205)
- 15 Cherub Choir Rehearsal, 4PM (CE215)
- 15 Exultation Choir Rehearsal, 4PM (Sanctuary)
- 15 Voices in Praise Rehearsal, 4PM (CE215)
- 15 Prayer Group Meeting, 4PM (MB2)
- 15 Grace Notes Rehearsal, 5:45PM (Sanctuary)
- 16 Cancer Support Group Meeting, 12PM (Zoom)
- 16 Men's Monday PM Bible Study, 7PM (MB4)
- 17 Tuesday AM Women's Bible Study, 10AM (MB2)
- 17 Property Committee Meeting, 7PM (Workroom)
- 17 Finance Committee Meeting, 7PM (MB2)
- 18 Career Transitions Support Group, 9AM (MB2)
- 18 Women of Wonder Bible Study, 10:30AM (MB4)
- 18 ESL & Citizenship Classes, 5:30 & 6:45PM
- 18 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, 7PM
- 19 Generations of Grace Bible Study, 7PM (MB4)
- 19 Men's Pilgrimage Renewal, 7PM
- 19 Stephen Ministry Peer Support, 7PM (CE204/205)
- 20 Men's Fri. AM Bible Study, 8AM (MB2)
- 21 Men's Sat. AM Bible Study, 8:30AM (MB2)
- 21 Presbytery Meeting, 9AM Waco
- 21 Gotta Have Fun Game Night, 7PM (CE204/205)