



# grace

## LUTHERAN CHURCH

belong · believe · become

210 W. Park Row Dr.  
Arlington, TX 76010  
817.274.1626  
online @ grace.lc

Newsletter  
JANUARY 2022

Pastor  
Doug Widger  
Lead Shepherd

Pastor Steve Roth  
Community Care

Dr. Serena Pace  
DCE - Director of  
Ministries

Jennifer Chavez  
Director of  
Early Education

Rev. Dr. Russell  
Hildebrandt  
Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Dr. David  
Joeckel  
Pastor Emeritus



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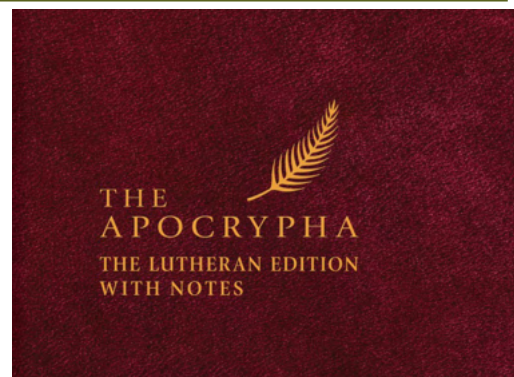
## A Blessed Year

Thank you for an amazing year! All the service and generosity everyone puts in is so life-giving, and each one of you makes up some part of that. We have seen a lot of growth and life in our church throughout the last few years, even in facing the challenge of a worldwide pandemic. The Holy Spirit is truly moving and active in this place; we give all glory to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! Thank you each for joining Him in his mission here, and looking out for your brothers and sisters in Christ.

## Jim's Sunday School

In my Sunday morning class we have started our new topic. We are using as the text The Apocrypha, The Lutheran Edition With Notes. It is available in either a hard copy or an e-book from Concordia Publishing House ([cph.org](http://cph.org)). I can be contacted at 817-917-2208.

*Jim Runzheimer*



## Thrivent Meeting

All Thrivent members and Grace staff are encouraged to attend this lunch meeting in the gym on January 16, immediately following second service.

The order of business includes:

- Message from local Thrivent representative(s)
- Help to check on and direct your Thrivent CHOICE DOLLARS
- Sign up to claim 2022 Action Team Funds

Grace's members who are not yet Thrivent members but would like information about becoming a Thrivent Member are encouraged to attend also.

The deadline to RSVP is January 9 so we can have a lunch for you. We will follow Grace's and Thrivent's protocol for Covid safety.

For any questions or additional information and to RSVP, call or text Chris Owens at 817-247-7122

# thrivent

# FAMILY MINISTRY NEWS

## SUNDAY MORNINGS at 9:45 am (between early and late services)

Grace Kids (Grades 1-3 and Preteens Grades 4-6) Meet in classrooms in the preschool hall.

JR. High Youth (Grades 7-8) meet in Meeting Room 4 for Deep End Confirmation.

High School Bible Study (Grades 9-12) Youth meet in the Youth Shed.

Biblical Parenting Sunday School (For parents, grandparents, & guardians of preschoolers through high school seniors) meets in the Library.

## Grace Kids Sunday School

Are you interested in joining the Grace Kids Ministry Team? We are looking for assistants or subs to join our AWESOME team of people who are passing on the faith to the next generation. Contact Serena at [space@grace.lc](mailto:space@grace.lc) or 817-274-1626, x1002 for more information.



We had a great time last month with a hayride, some carols, and s'mores!  
Check out what we have planned for January:



For grades 7-12: Sunday, January 9th we're going ice-skating! Panther Island Ice at 2 pm; meeting at the church at 1:15 pm if you'd like to carpool. \$10 to participate, RSVP by Jan 5th and wear thick socks! Contact Serena for more information.

For grades K-6, w/teen help appreciated: Grace Kids Serve Day will be Saturday, January 15th (Time TBD). We're meeting at the church to make sandwich bags for Arlington Life Shelter. Donations to feed 90 people: Chips, cheese slices, lunch meat, bread, fruit, and cookies. Let Serena know if you can be there, and which you will bring!



## ELDERS & THEIR ASSIGNED

Ernie Owens	A-B
Hank Jacobs	C-E
David Swille	F-H
Mike Kennedy	I-L
Mike Curtis	M-O
Ernie Owens	P-R
Joe Masterson	S
Keith Mangels	T-Z

Head Elder:  
Joe Masterson

## Your Elders Are Here for You

If there is any way we can assist you with any spiritual needs or physical concerns do not hesitate to contact your elder. If you need their contact information, please request it by calling the church at 817-274-1626 or email: [jdelcristo@grace.lc](mailto:jdelcristo@grace.lc).

New to Grace? Reference the adjacent list. If your last name begins with "R" for example, Ernie Owens would be your assigned elder.

*Joseph C. Masterson*

## LCMS - Million Dollar Life Match

The people of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) love children and families, and they demonstrate this love through many acts of mercy in their communities. To support these local pro-life efforts the LCMS will offer \$1 million in matching grants to LCMS congregations, starting in 2022. Click [HERE](#) to hear more!

# Life Groups

The Spring groups below will start the week of January 16th, and sign-ups are open now!

This same information can be found on the church website at [grace.lc/get-connected](http://grace.lc/get-connected)

## #G1 Co-ed Group

- Led by Pastor Doug Widger
- Wednesdays at 7:30 pm via Zoom
- Sign up [here](#)

## #G2 Co-ed Group

- Led by Greg Roe
- Mondays at 7 pm at the church
- The Gospel of Mark
- Sign up [here](#)

## #G3 Men's Group

What do you think about when you hear the phrase 'spiritual warfare'? In this men's group we'll gather together to discuss the everyday battles we face and the tools that God equips us with!

- Led by Steve Woolston
- Tuesdays at 7 pm at the church
- *Equipped* by Pastor Chris Kennedy
- Sign up [here](#)

## #G4 Women's Zoom Group

Living Intentionally in an Unstable World: enabling us to overcome fear, worry, and doubt as we surrender to God and put our hope in Him alone.

- Led by Ann Carson and Ellen Pelzer
- Mondays at 7 pm via Zoom
- *Dare to Hope* by Melissa Spoelstra
- Sign up [here](#)

## #G5 Women's Morning Group

- Led by Barbara Koehn
- Thursdays at 9:30 am at the church
- *Twelve Extraordinary Women* by John MacArthur
- Sign up [here](#)

## #G7 Young Adult's Group

- Led by Richard Del Cristo, Jr.
- Schedule/Study TBD with group members' input
- In-person at the church
- Sign up [here](#)

# Ongoing Groups

## NEW Grace Seniors

Come break bread with other seniors as we brainstorm what we hope for our ministry together!

- First meeting January 13th; Potluck Fellowship Gathering
- Once a month, 2nd Thursday at noon
- Contact Serena with questions at 817-274-1626

**grace**Seniors

## Book Club Update

Our book we're reading this month is *Mission at Nuremberg* by Tim Townsend - meet with us to discuss on Jan 19th at 2 pm!

## NEW Preschool Families

It can be hard finding the right place to fit in when you have small children. Join us once a month for a preschool family friendly event designed to engage the whole family in fellowship and fun. Whether you are a part of the church, GLEE, or just a member of our community looking for somewhere to connect, we would love to get to know you more!

- First meeting January 29th
- Once a month, 4th weekend of the month
- Coordinated by Katie Lee, contact at [klee@grace.lc](mailto:klee@grace.lc)

## Choir + Joybells Update

After the holidays, we are taking our annual winter break. Rehearsals will return on Jan. 19th at their normal scheduled times (6:30 & 7:30). This would be a great time to come re-join or try it out!



## Mission of the Month: A Year's Reflection

We have had an incredible year supporting ministries and organizations both locally and internationally. Here's a reflection on the year just passed.

**February:** We partnered with Metroplex Women's Clinic and provided items for gift baskets supporting mothers facing unexpected pregnancies.

**March:** We had many members volunteer in a family/community outreach Easter event.

**April:** We supported our local healthcare workers by arranging and delivering gift bags with notes of appreciation to Texas Health Arlington Memorial Hospital.

**May:** Donations poured in and we surpassed our mission goal participating in World Vision's Global 6K for Water, helping provide communities with clean water and sanitation.

**June:** We blessed SafeHaven with supplies helping provide services to local domestic violence victims.

**July:** More supplies and monetary support were provided to Arlington Life Shelter, assisting locals impacted by homelessness create a path to self-sufficiency.

**September:** We welcomed new GLEE families to our school by serving them take-home pizzas and welcome bags introducing them to our church.

**October:** We threw a baby shower for the women who participated in our Embrace Grace group - in this group parents experiencing unplanned pregnancies were able to connect with our church members and experience renewed hope in Christ.

**November:** Grace members donated and supported 39 students to attend Perry Smith's schools for the year. Loving Liberia is changing the lives of children and their families as the children learn about Jesus and have a Christian education so they can have a better life.

**December:** Lutheran Braille Workers help people touch the promises of Jesus year-round, but this last month we renewed our call for volunteers and donated to continue supporting this ministry.

THANK YOU Grace Family for your incredible generosity and heart for serving Christ by serving others in our community and around the world. Below is our first MOTM for the new year!



## Mission of the Month: Souper Bowl of Caring

The Souper Bowl of Caring empowers and unites communities to tackle hunger using the energy of the Big Super Bowl Football Game. Its vision is to transform the Big Game into a nationwide movement inspiring people to give locally and make a collective impact on hunger. People collect monetary and canned soup donations traditionally during the weeks leading up to and after Super Bowl Sunday. All of the money and food is then given directly to local charities of the group's choice, which for us will be Arlington Charities.

Canned soup will be collected in January and February, ending on Super Bowl Sunday, February 13, 2022. Any monetary donations will be used to buy soup. Thrivent Financial will also supplement this soup drive.





1/1 Laci Richmond-Huzarevich  
 1/3 Mary Gad  
 1/3 Erika Brown  
 1/5 Gary White  
 1/6 Huda Gad  
 1/8 Becky Giesselmann  
 1/8 Jimmy Hankins  
 1/8 Kecia Schmidt  
 1/10 Ryan Westbrook  
 1/11 Nancy Turnbough  
 1/12 Chloe Braziel  
 1/13 Ryan Hoar

1/15 Bill Cannon  
 1/15 Marilyn Jones  
 1/16 Bobby Halliburton  
 1/17 Dick Malec  
 1/18 Shahid Ali  
 1/19 Diane Nelsen  
 1/20 Jennifer Rukavina  
 1/21 Paul Horton  
 1/22 Brett Crow  
 1/24 Melinda Taber  
 1/26 Allison Spradlin  
 1/26 Karl DeRooy  
 1/27 Christopher Estell  
 1/27 Gene Lowke  
 1/27 Ken Homeyer  
 1/28 Adam Crane  
 1/28 Kay Savant  
 1/28 Tiffany Seefeldt  
 1/29 Eric Roe  
 1/29 Kim Platt  
 1/30 Alease Bodenstab  
 1/30 Mary Moretz  
 1/31 Jeanette Patterson



1/4 David & Judy Joeckel  
 1/8 Robert & Madonna Lorenz  
 1/10 Lynn & Patty Smith  
 1/19 Richard & Jennifer Chavez  
 1/19 William & Jann Richmond  
 1/21 Gary & Susan White  
 1/22 Ray & Susan Hamann  
 1/23 Roland & Kay Savant  
 1/26 Joe & Phyllis Sparks

Did you know that the church calendar is available ONLINE at [grace.lc](https://grace.lc)? [CLICK HERE](https://grace.lc/events-activities/calendar) (<https://grace.lc/events-activities/calendar>) to access it. Any calendar changes and/or additions made in the church office are updated online in real time!



Call the church office or e-mail [jdelcristo@grace.lc](mailto:jdelcristo@grace.lc) if you want to:

- ♦ Receive a copy of *Portals of Prayer* mailed to your home.
- ♦ Be added to the group email list that receives prayer requests.
- ♦ Submit updated address and contact information.
- ♦ Receive a current Church Directory as an active Grace member.
- ♦ Submit and/or update a prayer request.

## A note of appreciation

Dear friends of Grace Lutheran,

Thank you so very much for the gorgeous basket of flowers that you had sent for Ken's service. It was a stunning arrangement, and our family appreciates your kindness!

Grace Lutheran Church is a very special congregation. Ken spent quite a bit more time there than I did, and he made some very dear friends in your church community. When I was there, I felt right at home and enjoyed every moment of the worship service and the fellowship that followed.

Thank you for gracing us with such kindness. With great appreciation and best wishes for many wonderful musical years ahead,

*Marcia Mowell*



# A measure of love

Jesus says one golden rule sums up the law.

*Directions: Match the word parts from the ruler to the incomplete words in the first three Bible verses. Then add the bolded letters (in order) to Matthew 7:12 to complete that verse.*

Do not seek **re**\_\_\_\_\_ or bear a grudge against anyone among your \_\_\_\_\_ople, but **love** your **neig**\_\_\_\_\_ as yourself.

LEVITICUS 19:18, NIV

Learn to do **right**; seek jus\_\_\_\_\_. **Defend** the \_\_\_\_\_pressed. Take up the cause of **the** \_\_\_\_\_less; **plead** the \_\_\_\_\_e of the widow.

ISAIAH 1:17, NIV

He has shown **you**, O mortal, what is go\_\_\_\_. ...

To act **justly** **and** to **love** me\_\_\_\_\_ and **to** walk \_\_\_\_\_ly with your God.

MICAH 6:8, NIV

_____	father_____
_____	pe_____
_____	_____venge
_____	_____od
_____	_____rcy
_____	op_____
_____	_____hbor
_____	humb_____
_____	cas_____
_____	_____tice

So in \_\_\_\_\_ything, do to ot \_\_\_\_\_ what you would \_\_\_\_\_ve them  
d \_\_\_\_\_ to you, for this s \_\_\_\_\_ms up the \_\_\_\_\_w and the Proph \_\_\_\_\_s.

MATTHEW 7:12, NIV

Answer: revenge, people, neighbor, justice, oppressed, fatherless, case, good, mercy, humbly, everything, others, have, do, sums, Law, Prophets