



# grace

LUTHERAN CHURCH

belong · believe · become

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

Newsletter  
FEBRUARY 2024

Pastor  
Doug Widger  
Lead Shepherd

Pastor Steve Roth  
Community Care

Dr. Serena Pace  
DCE - Director of  
Ministries

Mrs. Laura Scott  
Director of  
Early Education



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## Lent Services - The Book of Exodus

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on February 14th, and so does our emphasis on Moses' book called Exodus. In it, Moses asks Pharaoh to let God's people go seven times (Exodus 5:1; 7:16; 8:1, 20; 9:1, 13; 10:3) and Pharaoh finally does it! When he does, God's salvation is so amazing that the event becomes the Gospel of the Old Testament. Israel's Scriptures mention the exodus 125 times!

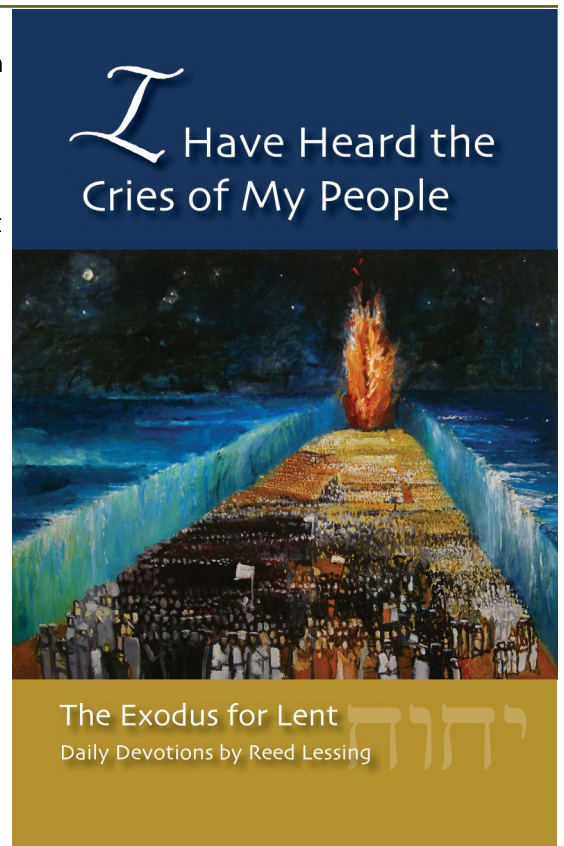
Throughout the book of Exodus, God reveals who He is through His absence and His presence, through His silence and His speech, through His wrath and His mercy, and through His judgment and His amazing grace. In doing so, the book paints a beautiful portrait of Jesus.

The Sunday Morning Bible Class will look at the exciting history and theology connected with the book of Exodus. *It will all be very practical and useful!* There is also a Lenten devotional booklet based on Exodus. Be sure to get yours, they can be found at the donut table on Sundays.

Services will take place in the Fireside Room on Wednesdays, 2/14 - 3/20, at 4:30 pm and 6:30 pm. A meal will also be served each Wednesday in the Gym between the services, at 5:30 pm. Maundy Thursday and Good Friday Services will happen only at 6:30 pm, in the Gym.

Sermon plans are as follows:

- Ash Wednesday, 2/14 "Big Things with Small Stuff" (Exodus 2:1-10)
- Lent One, 2/21 "How God Changes Us" (Exodus 3:1-14)
- Lent Two, 2/28 "Stop Trying and Start Trusting" (Exodus 14:1-29)
- Lent Three, 3/6 "Strike the Rock!" (Exodus 17:1-7)
- Lent Four, 3/13 "Mine!" (Exodus 20:1-17)
- Lent Five, 3/20 "Digging Ourselves into a Hole" (Exodus 32:1-14)
- Palm Sunday, 3/24 "A New Beginning!" (Exodus 34:1-8)
- Maundy Thursday, 3/28 "Access!" (Exodus 24:1-11)
- Good Friday, 3/29 "Agnus Dei" (Exodus 12:1-13)
- Easter, 3/31 "Against All Odds!" (Exodus 15:1-18)



# FAMILY MINISTRY NEWS

**SUNDAY MORNING Bible Studies**  
10:45-11:45 AM

Babies/Toddlers: Nursery  
Preschool 3's/Kinder & Grades 1-5:  
Preschool Wing Classrooms  
Grades 6-8: MR4 (Top Left)  
Grades 9-12: Youth Shed  
Biblical Parenting: Library



## Youth Pickleball!

GRADES 7-12, FEB 18, 4 PM  
ST. JOHN LC, MANSFIELD

Join Youth from St. John for this fun event! Let [Serena](#), Gracie, or Hayden know if you plan to attend.



## DRIVE-IN MOVIE NIGHT at GRACE

FEB. 23, 6-8:30 PM  
Pre-K - Grade 6 Families, FLC

Entrance is one canned good! Invite your friends!  
Movie TBA.

Design & make your own car that night! Pizza and snacks provided!

Let [Serena](#), know if you plan to attend by Wednesday, February 21st.



**EGG HUNT**  
**MARCH 24, 3-5 PM**  
**CANDY, TRINKETS &**  
**EGGS NOW BEING**  
**ACCEPTED!**



## Influencer

We're all influenced by the people around us through news, music, work, school, sports, and basically anywhere we direct our attention. This year's program is designed to help students navigate the many influences in their lives and encourage them to look toward Jesus, the greatest influencer of all time, so they use their influence to positively change their culture. Romans 12:2



**JUNE 16-21, \$300, Grades 6-12**  
**AUSTIN, TX**

How You'll Serve:

Our goal is to meet the tangible needs in each community. Projects may include:

- Assisting in a local food kitchen
- Helping residents in assisted living
- General yard work and light home repairs
- Volunteering with local non-profits and community centers
- Tutoring children

### Payment Schedule

February 15 - \$50 (\$150 NOW DUE)

March 15 - \$50

April 15 - \$50

May 15 - \$50

**Adult Prayer**  
**Partners WANTED.**

**PARENT/YOUTH**  
**MEETING #2:**  
**FEB 25, 12 PM,**  
**Youth Shed**

# Ongoing Groups Updates

Information on all of our groups can be found anytime at [grace.lc/get-connected](http://grace.lc/get-connected)

## graceSeniors



**Be our Valentine Feb. 8 at 12 PM!**  
Welcome our **LUNCH 'N' LEARN GUEST: Gregory Williams**, the Volunteer Services Manager from Vitas Healthcare, FW. The topic is **HOSPICE**—the many ways we can

meaningfully volunteer with hospice patients in our community, as well as how we can give end-of-life spiritual and emotional care to patients and their families, including our own loved ones.

**Sign up to lead a DEVOTION with Serena.**

**Lunch includes:** Spaghetti, Salad, Garlic Bread and Valentine's cookies!

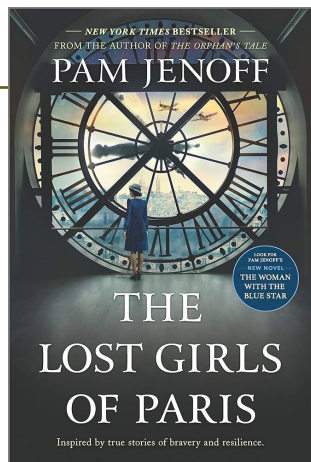
**Hosts:** Rosentreter, Nelson, George & Owens



**"Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God." 1 John 4:7**

## Book Club

This month, we are reading the historical fiction novel "The Lost Girls of Paris" by Pam Jenoff. We meet in the church library on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 2 pm. Come join us!



## Embrace Grace & Embrace Legacy

Please keep our three Embrace Grace 'Blooms' and mentors in prayer!

Do you know a young dad who might be glad to have a support group of men around him as he navigates through fatherhood? If so, please contact Gary White or Joe Elmers. Call the [Church Office](#) for more information.



A **Memorial** is a monetary gift designated to a Grace Ministry as a living memorial in memory of a loved one or a friend.

An **Honorarium** is a monetary gift designated to a Grace Ministry as a tribute honoring an achievement, celebration, or deed of a loved one or a friend.

With deep appreciation, we accept the following Memorial and Honorarium gifts given as of January 24, 2024 honoring:

### Memorials:

For Sanctuary Renovation, from Sandra Fultz in memory of her parents E. O. & Maxine Voge by Sandra Fultz.

For ESL Ministry, from Ruth Brown in memory of Rev. Wm F. H. Zersen

### Honorariums:

For Sanctuary Renovation, from Lou Ann Williams in honor of her grandchildren Caleb, Courtney, & Joshua Meissner

## Loving Liberia

Loving Liberia recently completed a new well on our campus in Gayes Zahn Town, River Cess County, Liberia. This is our first school and the home village of where Perry Geevon Smith was born. We want to thank God for His grace and for your support in helping with this milestone event of a new well for our children in Liberia.



We are in the process of shipping all the playground equipment donated from Grace, Arlington to Gayes Zahn Town for the children. Our shipment will also include 20 computers, two generators to provide electricity and seven shipping containers of other supplies. Once again, we thank God for His tender mercy and for the generous support of all. We covet your prayers and thank you for your generosity in helping children have a Christian education knowing Jesus as their savior.

Blessings,

*Pastor Hildebrandt*

## Texas District Grant

Did you know our Church participated in the first ever Catalyst Innovation Lab, hosted by our Texas District LCMS? We were blessed to be one of the finalists called to present about our soccer ministry, and received a generous grant to help support it!


If you would like to learn more about what the Catalyst Innovation Lab was about please follow this link to find out <https://txlcms.org/innovationlab/>. If you would like for us to share in person our experience or if you have any questions about it, please contact Pastor Widger or Pastor Zamora, they would love to share all about it.



**Received and  
committed to date:**

**\$285,673.02**

**Goal:  
\$368,000**

 = \$1,000

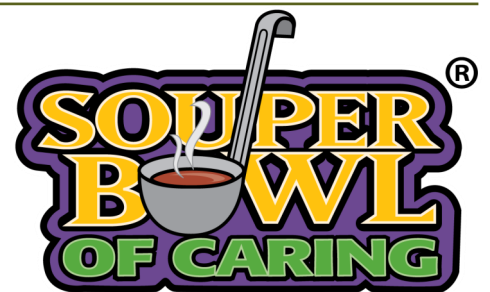
## Soup Report

We have collected and turned in to Arlington Charities 615 pounds of soup so far!!

You have blessed so many with your generosity of nutritious food.

Let's keep it coming up to and including Super Bowl Sunday. We will have a soup pot for cash donations on Super Bowl Sunday for those unable to bring cans. Each \$1 buys a pound.

If you are tired of buying soup, Arlington Charities is also low on peanut butter and canned fruit, so feel free to grab that also.



**thrivent**

# Soccer Ministry Fundraiser Breakfast

Sunday, February 11th  
10:30 am – 12:00 pm

Grace FC is hosting a fundraiser breakfast with burritos on the menu.

You are welcome to stay or take them to go. The meal is by donation only, as there is no set fee.

"We are asking for your help, Grace Family!" All proceeds from the breakfast fundraiser will go to the soccer teams' uniforms.

Thank you for your support and prayers!

An email can also be sent to [jzamora@grace.lc](mailto:jzamora@grace.lc) for more information about this ministry or the breakfast fundraiser.



Ladies of Grace,  
you are invited to a



## Baby Shower

To bless Richie & Jenna Del Cristo

Saturday,  
February 17  
10am - Noon  
Grace  
Lutheran  
Church Gym

Jenna & Richie have chosen not to discover their little one's gender, but get great gift suggestions at their registry: [rebrand.ly/babydc](http://rebrand.ly/babydc)

Suggested gift cards: Amazon, Walmart, Visa  
Also welcome: Gently used children's books with personal messages.

## Pushpay Instructions



Pushpay®

1. Use your cell phone text messaging feature.
2. Type (833) 630-9900 in the send to line
3. Type GRACELC in the message line.
4. Press to send message.  
*Almost immediately you will receive a message back thanking you for your generosity.*
5. Click the link shown in the message.
6. This takes you to the page where you will see our church logo.
7. You have the option to make a gift to the church's ministries.
8. You can insert the dollar amount of the gift.
9. You can choose the frequency of the gift (one-time gift or recurring gifts).
10. Choose the fund type (tithes, etc.).
11. Click Next.
12. You will be able to confirm the details you just chose, then add your credit card or bank account information, and it can be stored for you or not, as you desire.
13. Check the box to authorize the transaction.
14. Press GIVE, and you are done.



Did you know that the church calendar is available ONLINE?

[CLICK HERE \(go.grace.lc/calendar\)](http://go.grace.lc/calendar) to access it. Any calendar changes and/or additions made in the church office are updated in real time!

## Spanish Corner

|            |      |
|------------|------|
| Caliente   | Hot  |
| Frío/ fría | Cold |
| Lluvia     | Rain |
| Sol        | Sun  |
| Luna       | Moon |
| Nieve      | Snow |
| Viento     | Wind |

Call 817.274.1626 or email [churchoffice@grace.lc](mailto:churchoffice@grace.lc) to:

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



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- 2/10 Tommy & Elizabeth Ott
- 2/12 James & Olena Gerhardt
- 2/14 Ernie & Chris Owens
- 2/14 Larry & Darla Creel

- 2/2 Hosny Gad
- 2/2 Rylan Morris
- 2/3 James Kempf
- 2/3 Mary Schlotte
- 2/5 Russell Hildebrandt
- 2/7 Janet Baetz
- 2/8 Ann Bassett
- 2/8 Miguel Nieves
- 2/8 Pat Coomes
- 2/8 Rachel Schmidt
- 2/8 Walter Baumann
- 2/10 Phyllis Slotter
- 2/10 William Richmond
- 2/11 Joann Boyle
- 2/11 Laura Hart
- 2/12 Jim Duppstadt
- 2/13 Thomas Wagoner
- 2/14 Elise Morris
- 2/16 Joan Brooke
- 2/16 Libby Burgdorf
- 2/16 Lou Ann Kersten
- 2/16 Steve Roth
- 2/16 Zoey Sessums
- 2/21 Nancy Grieser
- 2/22 Dean Mickelson
- 2/24 Jenna Del Cristo
- 2/24 Susan White
- 2/25 Beverly Gilbert
- 2/25 Dara Cunningham
- 2/26 Lisa Woolston

Thank You Notes

Dear Grace family,

Thank you so very much for the wonderful basket & goodies you gave me at Christmas. Words can't express my gratitude for the love and prayers I receive from you. I am so blessed to have this caring church family. Thank you.

In Christian love,

*Carol Noel*

Dear Grace family,

Roland & I would like to thank you all for the beautiful Christmas baskets Joe & Nancy delivered to us before Christmas. It was fun going through all the surprises, from the T-shirts to the candies, crackers and fruit. It took many to gather all the items and put all the baskets for the homebound together. We always love our large print *Portals of Prayer*, and the puzzles were good for our old brains! We so appreciate all the prayers and cards sent throughout the year to let us know we are not forgotten. It has been a difficult year for us. I had more surgery and Roland's cancer returned but God is so good, his doctor was able to remove all the cancerous tissue. He is recovering again. Hopefully, 2024 will be a good year for all!

Love,

*Kay & Roland*



Your Elders

|                              |     |
|------------------------------|-----|
| 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   |
| Jim Schmidt                  | T-Z |
| Head Elder:<br>Joe Masterson |     |

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: [churchoffice@grace.lc](mailto:churchoffice@grace.lc).

New to Grace? Reference the adjacent list. If your last name begins with "S" for example, then Joe Masterson would be your assigned elder.

*Joseph C Masterson*



Special Dates

- ◇ African American History Month
- ◇ Transfiguration of Our Lord, February 11, 2024
- ◇ Ash Wednesday, February 14, 2024
- ◇ Valentine's Day, February 14, 2024
- ◇ Presidents Day, February 19, 2024
- ◇ Leap Day, February 29, 2024

