



Doug Widger
Pastor

Steve Roth
Pastor

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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One Thing Goes UP and Another Comes DOWN

Website

After several months' worth of work we are proud to have our new website **UP** and running. Many thanks to all who contributed, especially Serena Pace for serving as the project leader. Check it out at **www.grace.lc**.

While we have launched – we seek to continually improve the experience people have when connecting. Your input can assist us in making our Grace website attractive and functional for those who already are a part of our family of faith and those yet to jump on board with us. Please give us your feedback at churchoffice@grace.lc.



The Mural

As many of you heard, congregational President Jim Schmidt said on Sunday, August 23 that the "Church for All Nations" mural has deteriorated to the point that it has become hazardous, both to our roof membrane, and the public in general. On Tuesday, August 25th it came **DOWN**. The Board of Directors will consider what to do next with that space.

The mural has been seen by hundreds of thousands of people driving up and down Park Row Drive of the past twenty years. It has been a testimony to Jesus and his love for all people and especially children. Please join me in giving thanks for the message which has been communicated to Arlington by this work. The mural has helped shape a warm, loving and caring message for all to see.

Sincerely,

Pastor Doug Widger

Explore Grace Seminar

This half day seminar, designed to be your gateway into our family of faith, will cover a variety of topics, including basic Christianity, Lutheran distinctives, and our spiritual growth pathway: Down, Up, In and Out. **Explore Grace** offers a genuine understanding of what it really means to be part of the community here at Grace Arlington. You will have the opportunity to meet Pastor Widger, as well as learn what makes this place tick. This is the first step in the process of affiliation with our family of faith.

Our next **Explore Grace seminar** will be **Saturday, September 12 @ 9:00 a.m.** Due to the COVID-19 situation we will be hosting this event via Zoom. If you know someone who might be interested, please have them call the church office.



Do you have someone that you would like to honor or remember by placing flowers on the Altar?

Contact:
cjackson@grace.lc
or call
817-274-1626



Altar Flowers

The Altar Flower Sign up Sheet has blank spaces on the following dates:

One Space available -

August 30

September 20 & 27

October 18

November 1 & 29

December 6

Two Spaces available -

September 13

October 4, 11 & 25

November 8 & 15

Senior Support Network: Zoom Book



Do you like to read? In September we hope to begin an online Zoom Book Club. If you are interested in being a part of this group, please call Ruth Brown at 817-274-8600. More information will be given out when we find out how many people are interested.

God bless everyone and stay healthy.

Ruth Brown



Eyeglasses for Missions

Thanks to all of you who recently donated your used eyeglasses. While the mission organization we provide the glasses to, MOST Ministries, has their mission trips on hold during this virus period, we continue to collect glasses for when mission trips can resume.

Please continue to donate your used eyeglasses by placing them in the marked basket in the Narthex.



MY FLESH AND MY HEART
MAY FAIL, BUT GOD IS THE STRENGTH
OF MY HEART AND MY PORTION FOREVER.

Psalms 73:26

October is Ministry Appreciation Month

Friends, we participate in worship services anticipating a thoughtful message, uplifting music, that the sanctuary will be warm or cool as needed, and a myriad of other blessings. Thankfully during these unique times we are living in, we were already set up to provide live streaming. Our staff has the flexibility to adapt to the new way of running our services.

Let's please take a moment to thank those who make it happen.

October is Ministry Appreciation Month, an opportunity to show our gratitude to the ministry team and support staff for their service on our behalf. Express your thanks to the people listed below verbally and/or by mailing a note or card to the church office. A Sunday in October will be chosen to present your gifts of appreciation to those listed below.

The Board of Directors

Rev. Doug Widger
Rev. Steve Roth
Sharon Folks
Dr. Serena Pace
Cynthia Jackson

Jennifer Chavez
Katherine LeGrand
Jeremy Blaido
Richie Del Cristo
Jenna Del Christo

Will Land
Mark Oxner
Red Hoar
Maintenance Team:
John Rukavina, Allen Meyer, Joe Masterson
Abbey Jarrett

Sunday Morning Adult Bible Studies

Pastor's Bible Class: 2 Samuel

Join us in recalling the Story of God as revealed through Samuel, Saul, and David! God takes a group of tribes and turns them into a unified nation during this period of history. God continues to care for his covenant, called out, chosen people. That covenant continues today – through us, his church! Do not miss this opportunity to grow in your understanding of God's active work in history – then and now! We meet on-line at 9:45 a.m. Contact Pastor Widger for the Zoom invite: dwidger@grace.lc

Jim Runzheimer's Class:

On Sunday, September 6, 2020 we will start a class based on the LCMS study guide *I Trust When Dark My Road: A Lutheran View of Depression*. Copies will be available in the class, which is meeting in the Fireside Room. This text has been written by Rev. Todd Peperkorn, who was elected as one of the LCMS vice presidents at the 2019 National Convention.

For more information go to LCMS.org and click on resources and then type in "depression".

Pushpay Instructions

1. Use your cell phone text messaging feature.
2. Type **77977** 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 reoccurring 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.



Pushpay

E-mail requests to cjackson@grace.lc if you want to:

- ◇ "Receive the 3rd quarter edition of *Portals of Prayer*. Let Cynthia know what size(s) you would like to have mailed to your home.
- ◇ Be added to the group email list that receives prayer requests.
- ◇ Submit updated address and contact information.
- ◇ Receive by email a current Church Directory (*or have one mailed to your home*) as an active Grace member.
- ◇ Submit a prayer request and/or update.
- ◇ Obtain your elder's contact information.
- ◇ Submit stories: good memories, testimonies, happy news (*noting exactly whom we can share it with, for example, the Prayer Team, Ministry Team Newsletter Recipients*).

**Visit Grace's
new church
website:
www.grace.lc**

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: cjackson@grace.lc.

New to Grace? Reference the adjacent list. If your last name begins with "L" for example, Frank Vance would be your assigned elder.

- Joe Masterson

ELDERS AND THEIR ASSIGNED MEMBERS

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

Head Elder:
Joe Masterson

FAMILY MINISTRY NEWS

Grace Kids (For Preschool—6th Grade) Children's Messages can be found within the worship services. Sunday Bible Study will be sent out through email.

JR. High (New Grades 7-8) DEEP END Confirmation is Sundays at 6:30 PM on Zoom for the month of September!

High School Bible Study (New Grades 9-12) will meet online Sundays at 2 PM.
(Contact Abbey for Zoom link.)

Breakfast Club Bible Study (For Parents, Grandparents, & Guardians of Preschoolers through High School Seniors) We are on hold until October.

Contact Serena at space@grace.lc or Abbey at ajarrett@grace.lc for more ministry information.

Parents can stay in touch through the **GroupMe App**.



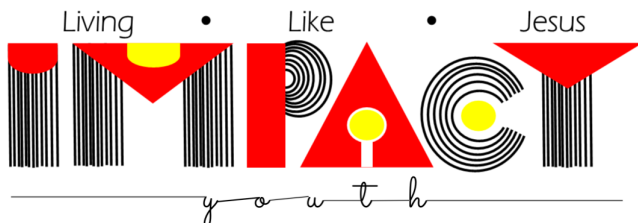
groupme



Academy 4 kicks off a new year virtual style on September 18!

Sept. 18 for Mentors
Sept. 25 for Students Intro.
Oct. 23
Nov. 13
Dec. 11 (Polar Express Day)
January 22
Feb. 19
Mar. 26
Apr. 23
May 21

Contact Serena
with questions at
space@grace.lc
Be a HERO to a 4th Grader!



Sunday, October 25, 2020
5:00—6:30 PM on the Field by Park Row

How to participate:

Sunday, 9/13:

- Mission Trip announcement at both services
- Parent Meeting from 9:45 - 10:30 AM regarding Mission Trip and fall plan (7th-12th)

Tuesday, 9/22, 6:30 - 8 PM:

- In-person Fellowship: LIFE-Size socially distant games. Middle School and High School students will be welcome. We'll meet outside the youth shed and everyone should have a mask. Hand sanitizer and individually packaged snacks will be provided.

Contact Abbey ajarrett@grace.lc for info.

- Donate candy to Grace.
- Tell us you want to enter your car. Please share your idea for approval. Keep appropriate for young children.
- Family gift card for overall best decorated car!
- Arrive as early as 4:00 for set up. **Please keep a health mask on as you hand candy out.**
- Drive through as a participant. Please have one container to collect candy/items per car. You may receive as many handfuls as you have children.
- Questions? Speak with Serena at space@grace.lc.

fellowship, devotion, discovery & prayer

Senior Saints

Thursday, Sept. 10 at 1:00 PM on Zoom

Invite your friends to join us for a devotion and special guest speaker from the Cancer Care Services of Ft. Worth. Email Serena @ space@grace.lc and you will be sent the Zoom link.



SUPPORTING CANCER PATIENTS
CARING FOR CAREGIVERS
EMPOWERING SURVIVORS

www.cancercareservices.org



Do you have a passion for Jesus and interact regularly with God through prayer? Are you interested in providing prayer for the GLEE or Newman staff and GLEE families?

Sign up to be a Grace Friend today! This ministry fosters relationships between church and GLEE staff and families and Newman staff through prayer by pairing each person or family with a person or family from Grace who will be their prayer warrior for the year.



Couples Fellowship on Zoom, featuring engaging comedy shows, meal and dessert ideas, interactive discussions, and other activities to spend time with the one you love.

September 11 – November 20, 8:30 PM; Email space@grace.lc

9.11.20 @ 8:30 PM—Join other couples for an introduction to Date Night on Zoom. You will gain information on the first actual Date Night, featuring a comedy show, as well as connect with other couples for fellowship and support.

Get Connected

Connect with the body online this fall by signing up for one of our **Life Groups** or coming to a **Social Group**! For those viewing the newsletter online, click on the links below to sign up.

For those reading the newsletter in print form, please call the church office at 817-274-1626.

All groups will be held online via Zoom (click [here](#) to learn how to use it).

This same information can be found on the new church website at <https://grace.lc/get-connected>.

Life Groups

In Life Groups, 7-12 people meet weekly to pray, connect, and discuss Jesus-centered study material together. This Fall, groups will be 8 weeks long starting the week of September 14th.

#G1 Men's Morning Group – *Spiritual Conversations in the Digital Age*, revealed something important: people talk less about spiritual matters than they used to. Whatever the reasons for this, research shows there are ample benefits to including God in our conversations. This resource will anchor our early morning – coffee laden talk, and spur us to grow in witness to the living Savior.

- Led by Pastor Doug
- Wednesday mornings at 6:30 am
- Sign up [here](#)

#G2 Men's Group

- Led by Richard Del Cristo, Jr.
- Day/Time TBD with group members' availability
- Study TBD with group members' input
- Sign up [here](#)

#G3 Co-ed Group – Building intimacy with Christ and recognizing his work in your daily life.

- Led by Katie LeGrand and Anthony Lee
- Day/Time TBD
- Sign up [here](#)

#G4 Co-ed Group – Study Revelation with us!

- Led by Lindsey and Shahid Ali
- Day/Time TBD
- Sign up [here](#)

#G5 Women's Evening Group

- Led by Ellen Pelzer
- Tues-Fri evening – *TBD w/group members' availability*
- Study TBD with group members' input
- Sign up [here](#)

#G6 Co-ed Tuesday Group – We will be exploring the book *Enter Wild* by Carlos Whittaker.

- Led by Joe and Joanne Elmers
- Tuesday evening (specific time flexible)
- Sign up [here](#)

#G7 Co-ed Sunday Group

- Led by Scott and Cynthia Cunningham
- Sunday evenings, 6 pm
- Study TBD
- Sign up [here](#)

#G8 Co-ed Monday Group

- Led by Steve and Alison Roth
- Monday evenings, 7 pm
- Studying the book of John – [click here](#) for more info or go see Sept 2020 Newsletter, page 7
- Sign up [here](#)

#G9 Co-ed Thursday Group – Serendipity Group Bible Study

- Led by Eric and Bette Rathjen
- Thursday evenings, 7 pm
- Sign up [here](#)

Social Groups

Social groups are open to everyone and offer an opportunity to connect and socialize with the body.

Bible Journaling – Exercise your crafting skills by making a creative response to God's Word using a variety of techniques. We connect with the Lord and apply His Word in our lives using the gifts of time, talent, and treasure. Through drawing, journaling, and art you can document your walk with God leaving a legacy of faith.

- Hosted by Alison Roth
- 1st and 3rd Saturdays, 10 am
- [Click here](#) for a supply list
- Sign up [here](#)

Date Night – Couples Fellowship on Zoom, featuring engaging comedy shows, meal and dessert ideas, interactive discussions, and other activities to spend time with the one you love.

Join other couples for an introduction to Date Night on Zoom. This first session is very important to attend. It's on September 11th at 8:30 pm. You will gain information on the first actual Date Night, featuring a comedy show, as well as connect with other couples for fellowship and support.

- Hosted by Serena Pace
- Fridays at 8:30 pm
- Launching September 11th
- [Click here](#) for the schedule and more info
- Sign up [here](#)

Virtual Happy Hour – Bring your own cocktail (or mocktail) and shoot the breeze. Don't do life alone!

- Hosted by the Rukavinas and Mangels
- 2nd and 4th Thursdays, 6 pm
- [Zoom link](#)

Senior Saints Lunch & Learn – Senior friends who are 60 and older are invited to bring a friend. We break bread together and take time to learn from a special guest on topics that impact seniors such as local government, health, culture, legacy planning, support and more!

- Hosted by Serena Pace
- 2nd Thursday of every month; 12 pm – 1:30 pm
- Lasting September to May
- Sign up [here](#)
- [Zoom link](#)

Book Club – Like to read? We're starting with *Where the Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens.

- Hosted by Ruth Brown
- Wednesdays at 4pm
- Launching in September
- Sign up [here](#)
- [Zoom link](#)

Movie Night – Family friendly movie night via Netflix Watch Party (Google Chrome extension, download [here](#))

- Hosted by Barbara Koehn
- Schedule TBD
- First movie to watch: I Can Only Imagine

Email jdelcristo@grace.lc if you have any questions about these groups before signing up or attending!

Fall 2020 Bible Study

This is an update for all previous members of LifeLight and those interested in Bible study coming this fall. Due to the Covid-19 epidemic, in-person LifeLight classes have been put on hold for the time being. We do not know when or if LifeLight classes will start up again anytime soon.

Pastor Steve and Alison Roth will be having a fall Zoom Bible study on the book of John this fall, beginning September 14th. We encourage everyone that can attend this class during the "live" Zoom session Monday evenings at 7:00 p.m., and for those who are not able to attend, there will be "recorded" sessions available to watch.

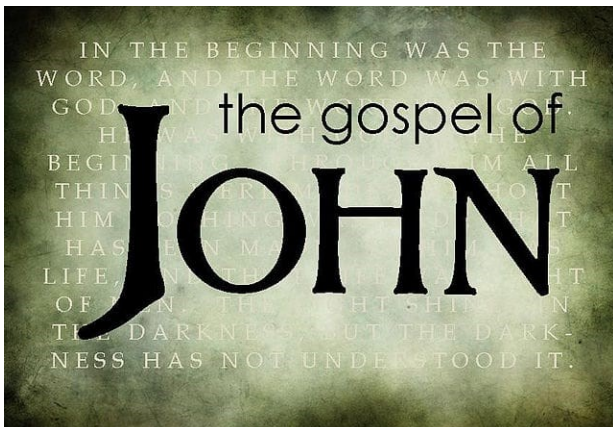
See the information below from Pastor Steve. More information will follow in the coming weeks.

Joe & Phyllis Sparks

GOSPEL OF JOHN

Beginning on September 14th we will begin a nine week study of the Gospel of John. This will be a Zoom study that will meet every Monday night at 7:00. A recording of the study will be available for those who cannot participate. The format for this study will be as follows:

- Prior to each study, you will be asked to read 2-3 chapters of the Gospel of John. Read your chapters slowly and more than once. Meditate on what you read. Rather than using a workbook, you will be encouraged to search the scriptures on your own.
- Each week, ask yourself four questions - What did I learn about God? What did I learn about people? What is one thought/verse that caught your attention? What is one thing that God might want you to put into practice?
- Enter your thoughts in a blank notebook and be prepared to share some of your thoughts with the group.
- Pastor Roth and Alison will open with a few thoughts of their own, but want more involvement from the participants.
- Anyone may participate and there is no other homework other than reading the assigned chapters from John.
- This study will take the place of the LifeLight Bible Study of past years. Future studies will be determined over the next couple of months.
- The Zoom ID and Password will follow in the future. Sign up [here](#).



GOSPEL OF JOHN SCHEDULE

Sept 14 - Chapters 1 & 2
Sept 21 - Chapters 3 & 4
Sept 28 - Chapters 5 & 6
Oct 5 - Chapters 7 & 8
Oct 12 - Chapters 9, 10, 11
Oct 19 - Chapters 12 & 13
Oct 26 - Chapters 14, 15 & 16
Nov 2 - Chapters 17, 18, & 19
Nov 9 - Chapters 20 & 21



**Grace Lutheran Church,
Arlington, Texas
In Person Worship Safety
Measures and Practices**

*(closely aligned with and contingent upon directives
from our state and local authorities - updated 7/30/20)*

Two services in the Sanctuary: 8:30 – Classical; 11:00 - Contemporary

For your safety, the following will occur:

- Prior to our gathering the building has been deep cleaned by our professional cleaning service.
- All items have been removed from the pews including: hymnals, Bibles, pens, Connection cards and pew cushions. You may bring your own cushion.
- After services we will wipe down the pews with disinfectant.
- Hand sanitizer will be available near the south entrance.
- We will limit access to every other pew.
- Offering plate will be placed in the Narthex; not passed during the service.
- We will not have Sunday School, Bible Classes, or Children's Church. We will keep you posted as to when these practices will resume.

Here are the procedures we would like to ask all worshipers to observe when they arrive:

- If needed, please print your own bulletin prior to service and bring it with you.
- Enter through the South doors.
- Go through the Sanctuary's middle doors to enter it. Exit through the side doors; ushers will dismiss people row by row.
- Observe proper social distancing of 6' between families.
- **Due to our ongoing policy of choosing to err on the side of caution, we will continue to require everyone over the age of 10 to wear a mask as they join us inside the building for worship until further notice.**
(Face coverings include masks, scarves, bandannas or a handkerchief.)
Disposable masks will be available for those who don't bring their own.
This extra measure of kindness and safety on your part is for your protection and for the protection of other worshippers who are in attendance.
- Stay in place during a verbal greeting for "Sharing of the Peace".
- If you are sick, running a fever, coughing, sneezing, please stay home and watch the LIVE STREAM on Facebook.
- If you have underlying health conditions which place you in the at-risk category, please stay home and worship with us on-line.
- Please limit your socializing to outdoor spaces. Do not gather in the Narthex after services.

SEPTEMBER

Birthdays & Anniversaries

9/1 Charlotte McCormick	9/4 Dick & JoAnn Jeske
9/1 Kenneth Flagg	9/4 Paul & Mary Wolter
9/2 Roman Chavez	9/5 Mike & Shawn Curtis
9/4 Ariel Allen	9/9 Paul & True Olson
9/5 EllaMae Ott	9/10 Frank & Sharon Vance
9/5 John Schlesinger	9/10 Gene & Vickie Rosentreter
9/6 Keyleigh Tippens	9/13 Donald & Jeanne Crow
9/6 True Olson	9/17 Sharese & Jonathan Dickerson
9/9 Gary Reed	9/20 John & Kecia Schmidt
9/9 Marilyn Rutledge	9/25 Doug & Janet Brutlag
9/10 Chris Bruhn	9/26 James & Stephanie Schmidt
9/10 Lynzie Chavez	9/26 Paul & Jennifer Tatrow (50th!)
9/11 Jerry Pollard	9/26 Steve & Peggy Alloy
9/11 Barbara Spivy	
9/12 Gary Folks	
9/12 Shiloh Oshinowo	
9/13 Cole Bodenshtab	
9/13 David Barber	
9/13 Keith Mangels	
9/13 Scott Schlesinger	
9/14 Rachel Hoar	
9/16 Jim Kettler	
9/16 Robert Lorenz	
9/16 Tyler Walker	
9/18 Rebekah Livesay	
9/19 Brandon Gostynski	
9/20 Jonathan Livesay	
9/20 Seth Sessums	
9/21 Cassie Garcia	
9/21 Delores Smith	
9/21 Jeff Patton	
9/22 Douglas Widger	
9/22 Janice Dehoney	
9/23 Shane Richmond	
9/24 Sidney Sorensen	
9/25 Ginny Hankins	
9/26 Kathy Crane	
9/27 Katie Moore	
9/28 Scott Bodenshtab	
9/28 Susan Seefeldt	
9/30 Holly Westbrook	