



grace

LUTHERAN CHURCH

belong · believe · become

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

Newsletter JULY 2021

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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Special Guest

Rev. Dr. Solomon Yadessa

On Sunday, July 11, Rev. Dr. Solomon Yadessa will be sharing God's Word with us at both services and during the Bible Class hour. He was born in Ethiopia and now heads a network of Multi-Ethnic ministries in North Texas.

See page #6 to read an interview and learn more about his life and ministry.



Reopening Plan

Hello congregation,

I would like to provide a brief update of the discussion the elders had about safety at our church. We are very blessed during these trying times that Grace truly was blessed by not becoming a "spreader of COVID". I believe this is due to the grace and mercy of our heavenly Father and our approach to the safety of our members.

The elders held their monthly meeting on June 17th and one of the discussion items was when and how to implement the next phase toward completely opening our church. Since we have been attending without masks, thanks be to GOD, it has been a true pleasure to see everyone's faces again. It has also been a blessing to see members attending again who had been away.

Our next move will be to leave the sanitation stations in place for those who wish to take advantage of them. The water fountains will be available again immediately with a few small bottles in the Narthex if you do not wish to use the fountains at this time. Our next phase will be on July 4th. We are bringing back coffee (YAY), but not donuts quite yet. Also returning will be communion at the rail, however at this time the common cup will not be used. A traveling tray will be available for those who desire it. We will continue the practice of individual cups handed out at the door on the south side of the Narthex for those who do not feel comfortable coming up front to the rail. Bibles, hymnals, pens and cards will also return to the pews. Your offerings will still be collected in the baskets by the doors prior to entering into the sanctuary, as we are currently doing.

I am excited about getting back to normal and I imagine you are as well. I look forward to when we can put this all behind us and worshipping together with all of you.

Joe Masterson

New Partnership

The Edge Coffeehouse is seeking to reach the UTA community with the Good News about Jesus. We will be partnering with them in the coming season. There are several ways which you can support this ministry.

1. **Drink Coffee while at Grace.** We will be using Sojourn coffee on Sunday mornings. Enjoy their different products.
2. **Take a bag home.** Soon we will be making their coffee available for purchase on Sunday mornings. Profits from the sale of each bag go towards supporting this outreach ministry.

3. **Visit when they come on campus.** The Edge Coffee Truck intends to be on our campus Tuesday and Wednesday mornings, beginning in late July from 8 am – 1 pm. Get to know the ministry team!

4. **Pray for God's hand to bless this work.** Specifically pray for the following:

1. A retail space for the coffeehouse ministry to land in;
2. God to draw spiritually hungry people towards this ministry;
3. That God would provide the right ministry-minded leaders to serve alongside the existing staff.



Get your 2021 Thrivent Wall Calendar

People like you have shared images and reflections on what helps them bring their purpose into focus. Now this unique calendar is available to pre-order for a limited time!

Visit thrivent.com/calendar by July 31, 2021. Your calendar will be mailed in late September.



Save the Date—9/26

September 26 will be a special "Celebration Sunday" with one service @ 10:00 am and a Fellowship Meal following.

- **Come early** – (9:00 – 10:00 AM) The Edge Coffee Truck will be joining us that day.
- **Stay late** - The Holy Smokers will be preparing pulled pork sandwiches and sausage.

More information coming soon!

Braille Center #184

With God's Grace we are back doing braille! If you haven't already, you can join our Facebook Group... [Braille Center 184](#). I try to keep that page updated with our news. Here is our July calendar....

July 1st - 9:00 am:

Glenn & Mary Moretz
(1st Thursdays)

July 1st - 6:30 pm:

Thumb Print (Duppstadts' team) (1st Thursdays)

July 13th - 6:30 pm:

Holy Cross (2nd Tuesdays)

July 15th - 3:00 pm:

Ruth Brown (3rd Thursdays)

July 15th - 7:00 pm:

Shepherd of Life
(3rd Thursdays)

July 28th - 9:30 am:

Cross of Christ, Desoto
(4th Wednesdays)



We are still in search of volunteers and donations.

Thank you, everyone, for all your help and love!

In His Name,

Avonne & Jim Duppstadt

FAMILY MINISTRY NEWS

Preschool/Pre-K Sunday School

We are searching for servant-hearted people to teach our young children during the Sunday School Hour (9:45—10:45 a.m.). All volunteers will complete an background check, safety training, and will join an AWESOME team of people who are passing on the faith to the next generation. Are you interested in joining the Grace Kids Ministry Team? Please contact Serena at space@grace.lc or 817-274-1626, x102.



Sunday Morning

Grace Kids (Kindergarten—6th Grade) Meet in a classroom in the preschool hallway from 9:45-10:45 A.M.

JR. High Youth (Grades 7-8) Attend youth & alternate in Grace Kids to serve at 9:45 A.M.

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

Breakfast Club Bible Study (For parents, grandparents, & guardians of preschoolers through high school seniors) meets at 10 A.M. in the Library.

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



Mark your calendars now for VBS!

JULY 26 - 29, 2021 (9 AM—Noon)

Register to volunteer & participate at
vbs.grace.lc

Sign up to provide items at
go.grace.lc/items

Families: Pick up your JULY Super Summer Service Bingo!

Cross out challenges you complete throughout
the month and receive a fun prize!

Children's and Youth Versions

You decide which version to use for families with
multiple ages. See Serena and Abbey for details!



NURSERY WORKERS WANTED to share faith, lead appropriate age-level praise time, play with and provide a safe and loving environment for our youngest churchgoers

Grace Kids Ministry is looking for caring people with childcare experience to work with our youngest age group, 0 to 3 years old, on Sunday mornings from 8:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. This is a paid position. Grace provides Safety Training and CPR certification. Our workers are background checked through Praesidium, a leader in child safety! Our goal is to hire 3-4 workers. The importance of staffing a church nursery may mean the difference between a young family or new visitor attending church or not. Who do you know who might be interested? Please contact Serena at space@grace.lc or 817-274-1626, x102.



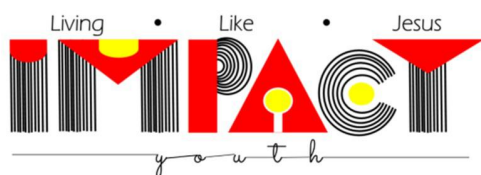
Volunteer Ministry

Grace is blessed by amazing volunteers who serve in a wide variety of ways. **A team is forming in order to support, equip, train and raise up our current and new volunteers.** Sometimes, all a person needs is a little direction to find their calling.



If you take great joy in helping others use their God-given gifts, God may be leading you in the direction of serving on this team through 2021.

To find out more, speak with Serena. This team is co-led by Serena and Karen Arrington.



July 11th

events

Rock Climbing Event at Dyno-Rock Indoor Climbing in Arlington. Students will pay \$10 each. Dinner will be provided. Parents and friends are more than welcome to join us! Time TBD.

July 24th

Service Saturday!! We will be helping Serena finish up VBC preparation. More details to come!

Contact Abbey at ajarrett@grace.lc for questions or more info.

ROCK CLIMBING

JULY 18 After Church



Thank you for participating in June's Mission of the Month and offering support through prayer and donations for the women, children and staff at Safe Haven.



Arlington Life Shelter

JULY MISSION OF THE MONTH NEEDS LIST

Bar soap, lotions, shaving cream

Bottled water

Cleaning products: Pine-sol, Fabuloso (brand) disinfectant, laundry detergent

55-gallon trash bags

Kitchen items: 12-ounce cups and bowls, cereal and granola bars, pop tarts; individual packaged breakfast items - pastry, cereal - small 3-fold napkins (probably from Sam's)

Other on-going items needed:

Individual packages of chips and fruit cups

Caprisun individual juice packs

Lemonade and Kool-Aid mixes

Plastic spoons

Single serve salad dressings

Individual packs of Splenda, Equal, Sweet-n-Low, Sugar

Individual packs of non-dairy coffee cream

Individual packs of jelly

Individual packs of mayonnaise

To learn more about how you can support and serve here, please visit: <https://arlingtonlifeshelter.org/>



Did you know that the church calendar is available ONLINE at 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!

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 "Y" for example, Keith Mangels would be your assigned elder.

Joe Masterson

ELDERS & THEIR ASSIGNED MEMBERS

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

MEET the AUTHOR

Getting Through Grief
Eight Biblical Gifts for Living with Loss
MICHAEL W. NEWMAN

Join us on Zoom for a Speaking/Q&A event with Michael Newman

MONDAY JULY 26, 7:00 PM

Get Connected

Connect with the body online this summer by joining in any time with one or all of our **Open Groups!**

For those viewing the newsletter online, click on the links below to sign up.

For those reading the newsletter in print form, please type in the link below to sign up, or you may call the church office at 817-274-1626 to reserve your spot.

Some groups are held online via Zoom (click [here](#) to learn how to use it).

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

Social Groups

Social groups are open to everyone and offer 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 at 10:00 am
- [Click here](#) for a supply list
- Sign up [here](#)

Book Club - Taking a break over the summer for now, we will start again in-person in September!

- Hosted by Ruth Brown
- 3rd Wednesdays at 4:00 pm
- Sign up [here](#)



Tuesday Night Basketball

Play a game and enjoy fellowship with family and friends!

- Held in-person at the Gym in the Family Life Center
- Tuesday nights at 7:30 pm
- Contact Jim Runzheimer for more information @ runz-law@att.net



NEW OPEN GROUP for YOUNG ADULTS

4th Fridays @ 7:00 PM

Grace Young Adults (GYA) - Whether you are currently in college, or starting out in the work force, come join the fellowship for some real friendship and real talk.

- Hosted by Richard Del Cristo, Jr.
- 4th Fridays at 7 pm
- Sign up [here](#)

Email jdelcristo@grace.lc

if you have any questions about these groups before signing up or attending!



with Rev. Dr. Solomon Yadessa

What languages do you speak?

I was born in Ethiopia into an Oromo family and grew up speaking the Oromo language. In school I studied Amharic, which is the official language of Ethiopia. Additionally I am fluent in English and am able to converse in Tigrigna, Anyuak, Sidamo, and Arabic.

Where did you earn your degrees?

I earned a Bachelor of Theology from Mekane Yesus Seminary in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia; a Bachelor of Divinity from the Association of Theological Institutions in Nairobi, Kenya; a Master of Arts in Theology, Development, and Evangelism from Warburg Theological Seminary in Dubuque, Iowa; and a Ph.D. in Missiology from Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

What inspired you to become a Lutheran minister?

I was born into a Lutheran family. My father was a pastor of Mekane Yesus church, which was formed from the merging of Presbyterian and Lutheran mission efforts. I was taught the importance of God's grace, faith, law, and Gospel. I believe the core teachings of true Lutheranism: that we have salvation by grace through faith in Christ who paid all the cost for our salvation, that the Bible is the inherent word of God, and that the body and blood of Jesus was given for the forgiveness of sins.

How was the Multi-Ethnic Ministry of North Texas established?

The Multi-Ethnic Ministry of North Texas reaches out to African refugees and immigrants. It originally began as an Ethiopian Oromo Lutheran outreach in Dallas and Irving. Over time it grew as we reached out to comfort other families in need. In August 2016 we began holding Karibu – welcome in Swahili – fellowship worship services in Swahili. Word spread and more people began attending. They loved the service and songs in their own language. We also began a youth service on Saturday evenings and transported children with their parent's permission to attend Bible study, play games and share a small meal. In July 2017 the LCMS Texas District Area B, Faith in Plano, and Our Redeemer in Dallas launched the Multi-ethnic Ministry of North Texas and called me as the ministry missionary. Since then the ministry has grown and serves people from China, the Congo, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Iraq, Mexico, Nepal, the Philippines, Rwanda, Somalia, Sudan, Turkey, and the United States.

You have been called an urban missionary – what does this mean?

Urban mission is part of missiology that strives to meet people in settings such as apartments, business locations, streets, and hospitals and to share the good news of God's grace through faith in Christ. Previously Europeans and Americans would travel and cross international boundaries to meet people. In this age God is sending people to Europe and America through business, education opportunities, and refugee and immigration programs. The question is how much do European and American churches use these opportunities for God's mission? In the urban areas in America I have more opportunity to do mission work than when I was in Africa. The percentage of receptivity of the hearers may vary, but there is more opportunity to share the Gospel here. The urban setting is a fertile place for missions.

What is the wholistic approach to your ministry?

I like this word, which comes from the Greek word Holos, meaning whole. Jesus used this word repeatedly when he declared sins forgiven and granted physical healing. A wholistic ministry strives to care for all aspects of a person's wellbeing, including spiritual, physical, emotional, social, professional, and academic. Apostle Paul used this word in 1 Thessalonians 5:23, "And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Pushpay Instruction

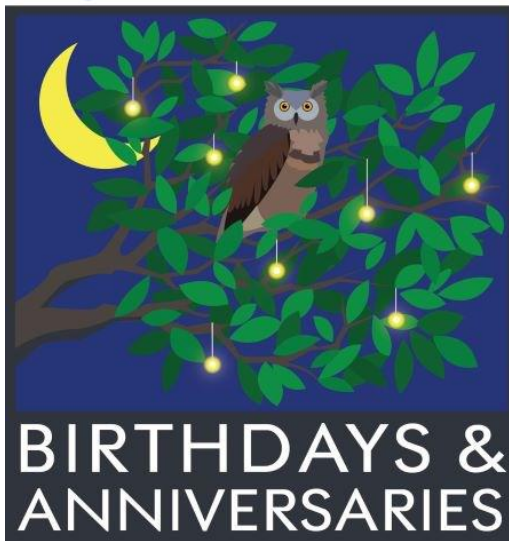


1. Use your cell phone text messaging feature.
2. Type **(833)630-9900** in the send to line.
3. Type **GRACELC** in the message line.
4. Press to send message.

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 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.

JULY



BIRTHDAYS

- 7/1 Diana Parr
- 7/1 Jan Brown
- 7/1 Nicholas Swille
- 7/2 Finley Moore
- 7/3 Duane Schluter
- 7/3 Gerry Sparks
- 7/5 Phyllis Sparks
- 7/5 Tom Panzer
- 7/6 Paul Olson
- 7/6 Victoria Smith
- 7/7 Kristen Stock
- 7/7 Sarah Smith
- 7/8 Dorothy Davies
- 7/8 Amy Homeyer
- 7/10 Jourdain Rohlffing
- 7/11 Jennifer Chavez
- 7/13 David Joeckel
- 7/13 Rhonda Ford
- 7/14 Cynthia Walker
- 7/14 Jan Penland
- 7/15 Larry Creel
- 7/16 Joyce Pinnow
- 7/16 Mike Curtis
- 7/17 Joshua Baer

- 7/18 John Spawr
- 7/18 Tracey Rukavina
- 7/19 Emily Schmidt
- 7/20 DelRay Alberts
- 7/21 Erin Jacobs
- 7/21 Peighton Surratt
- 7/23 Lindsay Ali
- 7/26 David Leppert
- 7/26 Jeffrey Brown
- 7/26 Mary Thiede
- 7/26 Ryan White
- 7/26 Steven Woolston
- 7/29 Tommy Smith
- 7/30 Ronan Scoggins
- 7/31 Dean Rohlffing
- 7/31 Nat Davies

Call the church office or E-mail requests to cjackson@grace.lc if you want to:

- ◇ The 3rd quarter of *Portals of Prayer* is in. You can have one mailed to your home, indicating choice of small or large print (*not mailed automatically, but when requested*).
- ◇ 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*).

ANNIVERSARIES

- 7/2 Don & Cynthia Walker
- 7/3 John & Delane Peery
- 7/6 Jimmy & Kristin Braziel
- 7/7 Jerry & Melonnie Pollard
- 7/8 Chuck & Tori Dratwick
- 7/8 Tom & Anna Jessup
- 7/11 Max & Rose Widner
- 7/12 Donald & Sharon Alloy
- 7/12 Jon & Ellen Pelzer
- 7/13 Eric & Lauren Roe
- 7/14 Gary & Sharon Folks
- 7/27 Michael & Linda Johnson



Learning Today to Build a Better Tomorrow

Dear Grace Family,



Our calling at Grace and the calling for all churches could be summed up in this verse: *"For this is what the Lord has commanded us: 'I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth' "* Acts 13:47. I am sold out for Jesus Christ and the mission he has given us at Grace to take the gospel "to the ends of the earth."

In 2015 Grace donated money to build a well in Perry Smith's home town in Liberia. The well is a "big deal" for the people who live in Gaye Zahn Town because they no longer have to walk to the river for water. The picture is too small to read the plaque on the front of the pump which read "Grace Lutheran Church, Arlington 2015."

Perry Smith has been a member of Grace since 1998 when he moved from Liberia. Dave Horger, lawyer at Grace, has helped Perry from the beginning to incorporate his school and work with the members of Grace to say, "I want to be part of this mission of sharing the gospel with children and their families in Liberia. God brought Perry to our church and what a great opportunity we have to go to the next phase of sharing the gospel in Perry's home town. Perry has just returned from Liberia where he purchased 40 acres in his home town to build a new school campus. The first building on the campus will be a guest house where we can house missionaries, mission groups, teacher from Monrovia to train teachers in Gaye Zahn Town, and for

Perry and me when we go over later this year to break ground for a new school building. Please go our web page at www.lovingliberia.com, in the near future to see more about the mission God has given Perry and his friends.

I am attaching a way to partner with us this fall.

Blessings,

Pastor Hildebrandt

HOLIDAY CRAFT SALES



We are looking into helping our Liberian students through becoming an exhibitor at a couple local craft fairs, one in October and another in November.

We would like to find someone with a food license so we could sell donated cookies, candies, pies, breads and canned goods.

Then we need several crafters who would make and donate all sorts of items, jewelry, sewing goods, seasonal decorations, art, etc.

Also needed will be perhaps three volunteers to staff the booth, handle transactions, and help set up and take down.

These events are a very enjoyable way to meet some wonderful people and it is a great feeling to discover customers who love your creations.

Simply clip this form and place it in the offering basket in the narthex. Thank you for your support.

- - - - -

Name _____ Email _____

Cell # _____

Craft or food items I would be willing to make and donate include:

_____.

Ways I would love to help

_____.