

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

Newsletter **MARCH 2022**

WITNESSES

TO CHRIST

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

Inside this issue:

Lenten Series	1
Family Ministry News	2
Ongoing Groups Updates	3
Engage Community	3
Your Elders	3
Coat Drive	3
Thrivent - Be Wise With Money	4
Memorials & Honorariums	4
Grieving Members	4
Bereavement Ministry	4
Email jdelcristo@grace.lc	5
A Thank You	5
B'days/Anniversaries	5
You are invited	5
Puzzle	6

Lenten Series -Witnesses to Christ: People from His Passion

John tells us why he wrote his Gospel: "Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name" (John 20:30-31). Life! When we believe that Jesus is the Christ, God gives us life—abundant life, forgiven life, and eternal life.

Historically, the Fourth Gospel is likened to an eagle—an image that suggests John soars to heights of glory and grandeur. That's because the evangelist paints a stunning portrait of Jesus, who is the bread of life, the resurrection and the life, and the way, the truth, and the life. Life in Jesus. That's God's gift to you!

This Lent, our life in Christ will be strengthened as we hear the witness of those in John's Gospel who journeyed to the cross. Along the way, we'll meet villains, such as Barabbas and Pontius Pilate, as well as sinners, such as Peter (who denied Jesus three times), Mary Magdalene (who was possessed by seven demons), and Judas Iscariot (who betrayed Jesus for thirty pieces of silver).

Please join us for worship as we hear the witness of these people in John's Gospel:

Ash Wednesday: John the Baptist, John 1:29-34 Chili Cook-Off Meal - hosted by Staff

Midweek of Lent 1 (March 9): Mary, the Sister of Lazarus and Martha, John 12:1-11 Potluck Meal - hosted by Life Groups

Midweek of Lent 2 (March 16): Malchus, John 18:1-11

Soup Bar Potluck Meal - hosted by Board of Directors

Midweek of Lent 3 (March 23): Peter, John 18:12-27

Midweek of Lent 4 (March 30): Barabbas, John 18:33-40

Golden Chick Meal - hosted by Board of Elders

Midweek of Lent 5 (April 6): Pontius Pilate, John 19:1–16

Soup and Salad Meal - hosted by GLEE

Maundy (Holy) Thursday (April 14): Judas Iscariot, John 13:21-30

Potato Bar/Salad Meal - hosted by Family Ministry as NYG Fundraiser Palm Sunday (April 10): The Disciples, John 12:12-19 Good Friday (April 15): John, the Gospel Writer, John 19:25-37 EASTER - The Resurrection of Our Lord (April 17): Mary Magdalene, John 20:1-18

Wednesday services will be held at 6:30 pm, and meals will be at 5:30 pm served in the Family Life Center with a freewill offering. Devotions for study are available in the Narthex, or you can contact the church office to have one mailed to you.

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.

On March 23rd, the Lenten Service meal will be hosted by Family Ministry as a fundraiser for the National Youth Gathering (NYG).

We need your help in hosting this meal! Contact Serena for more information on how you can support.



<u>Welcome</u>

Anthony Lee is super excited to be joining our team on staff as Youth Ministry Coordinator! He joined our church with his wife Katie and 3 kids last year, and not long after got involved as a volunteer in our Praise Team and Youth Sunday School. We will have a lunch with youth families and students celebrating this exciting new season and welcoming Anthony on March 20th after the late service. RSVP with Serena if you're able to attend!







SAVE THE DATE

VACATION BIBLE CAMP

JUNE 27—JUNE 30

NOW RECRUITING: Crew Leaders and Assistants, Admin., Games, Snacks, Opening/Closing, Nurse, Bible Adventure, KidVid Cinema, Imagination Station, Photography, Craft & Play, Prep, A/V!!!!



Adopt a Bible Buddy for Lent! If you haven't already, check the narthex to pick the Bible Buddy you want to adopt. Bible buddies do not eat food. They are fed by the Word of God. Read to them and memorize special Scripture. Mom and Dad can help out, too! Have your parents sign off on reading and Bible Memory. We will celebrate all the Bible reading and memorization you have done after Easter with a Nerf & Bounce party!





Easter Sunday, 9:45—10:45 AM

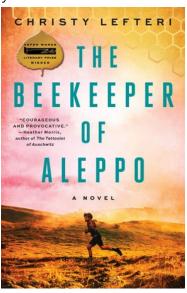
NOW ACCEPTING candy and plastic eggs. Volunteers wanted for set up/clean up, field hosts, egg and goody bag stuffers and photography.



Information on all the groups can always be found on the church website at grace.lc/get-connected

Book Club

This month we'll be reading the novel The Beekeeper of Aleppo by Christy Lefteri. Meet with us to discuss on March 16th at 2 pm in the church library!



Altar Guild

Have you ever wondered how our sanctuary and narthex are always kept clean, organized, and decorated? Would you be interested in serving Grace in this way? Contact Susan White or the church office for more information about Altar Guild.

Choir + Joybells

Our schedule will change to adjust to our Lenten services! Joybells will move to Thursdays at 6 pm in the Sanctuary, and Choir will be stay on Wednesdays at 7:30 pm, once the Lent Service ends. Come prepare for Easter with us!



ace Seniors Potluck Fellowship Gathering

March 10, 12 pm, Fireside

NEEDED: Devotion Leader

HOSTS: Gene, Vickie and Walt

Contact Serena with questions: 817-274-1626

Engage Community Update

Many exciting things are happening as we pour into four main areas: GLEE, The Perry G. Smith School, Embrace Grace and Hispanic Ministry. We are partnering with Pastor Juan Zamora of Irving in the area of Hispanic ministry. Meet Pastor Juan on Sunday, March 27, when he visits Grace as our Guest Pastor and shares about Hispanic Ministry during the Sunday School hour (adults and youth invited to attend in Fireside). Please join us in praying for discernment, as we consider engaging those in our community with the Gospel message. We have a few exciting possibilities on the horizon and we will keep you updated!

Coat Drive

We are accepting donations of new or lightly used coats now until March 13th, for students of Webb



Elementary School! Focusing on sizes from Youth Large to Adult Medium (ages 9-12), they will be collected in the Narthex.

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 Jim Schmidt 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: idelcristo@grace.lc.

New to Grace? Reference the adjacent list. If your last name begins with "M" for example, Mike Curtis would be your assigned elder.

Thrivent Members - Be wise with money.

March is your last opportunity to direct your 2021 CHOICE DOLLARS before they are lost. This is Thrivent's money and does not come from your account.

thrivent

Be wise with this resource and claim your choice dollars for Grace or a ministry

of your choice. This can add up to over \$10,000 if all members will do this. If you do not claim your Choice Dollars, the money will go to another church or charity out of town or out of state.

This is quick and easy to do.

- call 800-847-4836 (800-thrivent) and say Choice Dollars
- OR go online @ thrivent.com > What We Offer > Generosity > Thrivent Choice
- OR call Chris Owens (817 247-7122) to walk you through

This must be done by March 31 or Grace loses out. Be wise with money and claim Choice Dollars for Grace.

~Chris Owens, Thrivent Action Team Coordinator

Memorials & Honorariums

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 February 21, 2022 honoring:

Braille Ministry:

Dr. Russell & Paula Owens' Anniversary by Carol Hall

Virgil Patterson by Gene & Vickie Rosentreter

Donna Hertel by Gene & Vickie Rosentreter

Anna Jessup by Gene & Vickie Rosentreter

Anna Jessup by John Wesley Miller & Vickie Miller-Bellamy

General Ministry:

Donna Hertel by Joann & Richard Burke

GLEE Playground:

Parents & Daughter of Ruth Brown by Ruth Brown

Homebound Ministry:

Donna Hertel by Ruth Brown, Carrie Riggs

Pastor's Resource:

Harper Baldwin's Baptism by Mike & Shawn Curtis

Keeping our grieving members in prayer

Jeanette Naumann-Patterson and Family upon the loss of Virgil.

The Hertel Family upon the loss of Donna and Bill.

Tom and the rest of the Jessup family upon the loss of Anna.

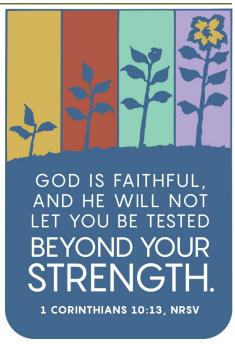
Judy and the rest of the Horton family upon the loss of Paul.

Friends and Family of Susan Gunderlach upon her passing.

Steve and the Woolston family upon the loss of Steve's dad.

The Blaido family upon the loss of Jeremy's dad.





Bereavement Ministry

The mission of this ministry is to show God's love and care for the family of a departed member of our Grace Church Family. We were honored to provide a reception in the Fireside Room following the funeral/memorial services for the families of Virgil Patterson, Donna Hertel, Anna Jessup, and Paul Horton. With deep appreciation, we say thank you to Thrivent Action Team Funds for providing the food, and to the following Grace members who were the hands of Jesus to serve these families: Joann Boyle, Joe Elmers, Joanne Elmers, Nancy Grieser, Mike Kennedy, Barbara Koehn, Lynn Mangels, Joe Masterson, John Rukavina, Delores Smith, and Patty Smith.



MARCH

- 3/3 Greg Roe
- 3/3 Jackie Rubel
- 3/4 Hank Jacobs
- 3/5 Heather Brown
- 3/6 Sharon Vance
- 3/7 Karen Carter
- 3/7 Art Rosse
- 3/9 Cathy Taylor
- 3/10 Daniel Stacy
- 3/11 Christian Burgdorf
- 3/11 Samantha Hosti
- 3/12 Mike Livesay
- 3/12 Susan Hoar
- 3/13 Joe Elmers
- 3/14 Ronald Hans
- 3/14 Carl Garcia
- 3/15 Jade Sepulveda
- 3/15 Linda Buck
- 3/16 Jan Runzheimer
- 3/19 Amanda Sessums
- 3/21 Ruth Brown
- 3/22 Anthony M. Pace
- 3/22 Theodore Spradlin
- 3/23 Na Schmidt
- 3/24 Ava Long
- 3/24 Connor M. Spradlin
- 3/24 Janet L. Brutlag
- 3/25 James D. Watson, Jr.
- 3/26 Bruce Leppert
- 3/26 Chelsie Schlesinger
- 3/26 Jane Smith
- 3/28 Jacob Braziel
- 3/28 Megan Roe
- 3/29 Brenda Capps



MARCH

- 3/4 Dean & Nancy Mickelson
- 3/10 Nathaniel & Jessica Pipkin
- 3/13 Kenneth & Janet Flaga
- 3/16 Severt & Ellen Nielsen
- 3/16 Bob & Lou Anne Williams
- 3/17 Mike & Dorothy Kennedy

Call the church office or email

<u>jdelcristo@grace.lc</u> to:

- ♦ Receive a copy of Portals of Prayer mailed to your home.
- ♦ Receive a copy of Witnesses to Christ, our Lenten devotional, 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 Thank You

Dear Ladies of Grace & Grace Lutheran members in general,

Thank you all so much for the beautiful basket brought to Roland & me by Joe Masterson for us to enjoy during Christmas! Since we have spent so much time homebound over the past year, it was really a wonderful surprise! From all the amazing edible treats like the Pepperidge Farm Cookies, and candy and puddings to the soft t-shirts and GREAT Neutrogena lotion and trivia books, we thoroughly enjoyed it all! We really appreciated the ladies who took the time to put the beautiful baskets together and also those who contributed to all the many neat surprises in our basket! It makes us really want to return to in-person services because we miss our church family so much! We have received so many special cards from members also. Until you have spent a year and a half in hibernation, you will never know how much that card means to the recipients! Sometimes on bad days we take our cards out again and read them just to remind us of the many who have been praying for us!! Again, thanks to everyone for your caring support. Joe has been amazing at bringing us communion and just praying with us and visiting. The Pastors have been good to check on us also...how many congregations got calls during the ice storm to see if their homebound members were safe? Thank you Grace!

In Christian Love,

Kay & Roland Savant



3/29 Greg Gostynski

3/29 Molly Giles

3/30 Brian Rukavina

3/30 Tyler Halliburton 3/30 Debbie Hall

3/31 Barbara Ruthart

Easter Hams

The Holy Smokers are planning to smoke hams and sausage for Easter on Saturday, April 16.

Please <u>Save The Date</u> and watch for further details in the April Newsletter.

For further information please contact Ernie Owens at 817-247-0747







A wonderous washing

David's prayer of repentance reveals a desire to be cleansed of his sin.

Directions: Unscramble the words on the left. Then match them with the correct phrases from Psalm 51 (NIV) on the right.

ETRCAE	 out my transgressions (v. 1)
HSAW	 away all my iniquity (v. 2)
RSEEROT	 me with hyssop, and I will be clean (v. 7)
WNERE	 me, and I will be whiter than snow (v. 7)
TLB0	 your face from my sins (v. 9)
DIHE	 out all my iniquity (v. 9)
NATRG	 in me a pure heart (v. 10)
LNSECAE	 a steadfast spirit within me (v. 10)
LBTO	 to me the joy of your salvation (v. 12)
WHSA	 _ me a willing spirit, to sustain me (v. 12)