



Pastor Doug Widger (Lead Shepherd) | Pastor Steve Roth (Community Care)
Dr. Serena Pace (DCE - Director of Ministries) | Mrs. Laura Scott (Director of Early Education)

THE TEN(der) Commandments

Martin Luther's Small Catechism was written for the head of the household to teach his family. The Large Catechism was his effort to give Pastors a tool to train their congregations in Godly living. Beginning in January, we will be leaning into God's word and the Large Catechism to make our hearts tender towards the things which he built into the design of creation. The following quote explains it well:



"The commandments are the most complete summary of creational design for human life." Professor Charles Arand, pg. 72. Luther's Large Catechism, CPH 2022.

Come and rediscover joyful living as we come to understand anew how life was designed to work. We will center our worship around these themes and then move to the gym for "Table Talk" discussions. Please plan to be a part of this exciting journey.

January 12th – 1st Commandment – Tender to the Creator

January 19th – 2nd Commandment – Tender to His Name

January 26th – 3rd Commandment – Tender Rest

February 2nd – 4th Commandment – Tender to Authority

February 9th – 5th Commandment – Tender to Life

February 16th – 6th Commandment – Tender to Purity

February 23rd – 7th/8th Commandment – Tender to Truth

March 2nd – 9th and 10th Commandments – Tender Contentment

.....
Inside this issue:

New Series: TEN(der) Commandments	1
Family Ministry News	2
Grace Seniors	3
Embrace Grace	3
Sisters In Christ Galantine's Event	3
Church Contact	3
Groups Ministry Interests	3
GLEE News	4
Hispanic Ministry News	4
Souper Bowl of Caring	5
Loving Liberia	5
Bible Journaling	5
Book Club	5
Bdays/Anniversaries	6
New Year's Encouragement	6
Thank You Notes	6
Special Dates	6
Your Elders	6
Puzzle	7

FAMILY MINISTRY NEWS

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDIES

10:45—11:45 a.m.

- Babies – 3 y/o in Nursery
- Preschool 4's — K in GLEE wing
- Grades 1-6 in GLEE wing
- Grades 7-8 in MR4
- Grades 9-12 in Youth Shed
- Biblical Parenting Group in Gym for 10 Commandments through March 2



BROOM BALL



COST \$15

JANUARY 12TH

JOIN US FOR PIZZA AFTERWARDS. CONTACT SERENA FOR MORE DETAILS.

4:45PM-6PM



JANUARY 9, 12-1:30 PM, FIRESIDE
CHICKEN GNOCCHI SOUP, OLIVE GARDEN BREAD STICKS, SALAD & DESSERT

CANCELLED

BRING A FRIEND!

Contact: Serena at space@grace.lc
817-274-1626, x 1002



ROAD TO NEW ORLEANS ENDURE

HEBREWS 12:1-3

NOVEMBER 9

Let's move the bus towards New Orleans! **ROUND-TUIT FUNDRAISER** for those chores you haven't gotten around to!

\$1,000



FEBRUARY 9

Super Bowl Sunday is here! The **YOUTH BAKE SALE** is perfect for finding sweet treats!

\$2,000

MARCH 5

Ash Wednesday **LENTEN MEAL FUNDRAISER**

\$3,000

APRIL 20

Easter is here! Join us for an **EGG-CELENT BREAKFAST & EGG HUNT!** Free-Will Donations

\$4,000

MAY 4 & 8

It's the **YOUTH CAR WASH** on May 4

\$5,000

JUNE 1

Form a team and test your skills at the **BIBLE BOWL** fundraiser and potluck, including dessert auction!

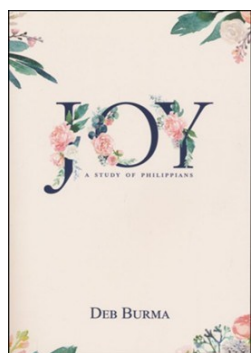
\$6,000

JULY 18-24, 2025

FAMILY MINISTRY NEWS



Save the date! Grab a flyer from the Narthex/Lobby and invite an unchurched friend!



BOOK STUDY ON PHILIPPIANS, EMPHASIZING JOY, BY DEB BURMA

COMING IN JANUARY 2025!

SIGN UP IN NARTHEX/ LOBBY TO PARTICIPATE IN A SMALL GROUP IN PERSON OR IN A SMALL ONLINE GROUP. MORE DETAILS WILL BE SHARED.



EMBRACE GRACE

Is this a ministry you feel called to help with? Contact Serena Pace, Barb Spivy or Barb Koehn for information. Training is available. EG meets on Wednesdays from 6-8 pm. Please keep this ministry in prayer. The new launch is Feb. 5.

This is love.

when
my
heart is
OVERWHELMED:
lead me to the
ROCK
that is
HIGHER
THAN I.
Psalm 61:2, KJV

Interested in Groups Ministry?

Do you have interest in joining a team to help coordinate Small Group Ministry? We are beginning to pray, form, and assemble a group who can help propel this ministry forward in the seasons ahead.

Responsibilities include meeting throughout the year to pray, plan, and seek God's will for small groups here at Grace. You may also be asked to help in propelling that plan forward by reaching out to group facilitators, assisting in communications with groups, and providing input on study materials and timeline. Please prayerfully consider if this is a ministry where God is calling you to serve, and reach out to [Serena Pace](#) or [Pastor Widger](#) if you are interested or have any questions.

Call 817.274.1626 or email 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.

GLEE NEWS



**2025-2026
SPECIAL
ENROLLMENT**

We will open up 2025-2026 registration for church members and currently enrolled families on *January 26th, 2025.*

PROGRAM FEATURES :

- ✓ One In Christ curriculum
- ✓ FROG Street curriculum
- ✓ Age appropriate development activities

ENROLL TODAY

817-275-5131

[WWW.GRACE.LC/WELCOME](http://www.grace.lc/welcome)



glee
Grace Lutheran Early Education

**PRESCHOOL
SUMMER
CAMP**

Limited Space Available

GLEE Summer Camp 2025 begins June 2 and will run through July 24. Campers spots available for children 6 weeks-5 years old!

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

JUNE 2- JULY 24 2025
210 W. PARK ROW ARLINGTON TX
817-554-4123

Visit Our Website
grace.lc/welcome

HISPANIC MINISTRY NEWS

La Posada

Our La Posada service and fellowship was well attended by many Hispanic families from our Spanish service, along with some ESL students. We also had some of our Hispanic community neighbors join us. La Posada provides us with a way to outreach into the community through a Hispanic cultural practice, giving us the chance to welcome our community in our campus and share the Gospel message of Jesus' birth as our Savior, connecting with those who like to hear more about our Lord and Savior, and enjoying a special time of celebrating and reconnecting with our traditions.



Thank You!

The ESL ministry would like to send out a THANK YOU for all the donations that helped us provide 42 stockings for the children of our ESL students at our Christmas party. Thank you, Grace family, for your prayers and continued support to our ESL ministry.

**¡Muchas
Gracias!**

ESL Spring Semester

We are looking forward to the ESL Spring semester that begins January 29th. Our semester is 14 weeks long and we have classes for Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced. We are excited to meet new students that will be joining us as well as seeing our returning students.



GENERAL GRACE NEWS

Loving Liberia

Loving Liberia has officially acquired two acres of land in Monrovia, Liberia. This has been a long process, because many deed holders don't have adequate records to prove they are the rightful owners. We are very grateful to Change Agent Network for assisting us in the process. We will begin construction before Christmas on building three classrooms: *one for the workers to live in, the second classroom will be to store materials, and the third classroom will be for cooking.* Having the workers onsite will help us keep costs down and aid in the building process. When we get close to finishing the school, the three classrooms will have a new roof put on them and we will transition to finish the school. We all at Loving Liberia thank you for your prayers and support in helping children know Jesus and having an excellent Christian education to further impact the literacy of Liberia. We all pray that you have a Christ-filled New Year.



Pastor Hildebrandt

Thrivent Upcoming Events

SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY! Soup collection for Arlington Charities will happen again. Bring your canned soup any Sunday in January through the SOUPER BOWL on February 9, 2025.



Last year, GRACE turned in OVER 1,000 pounds of soup and related foods to Arlington Charities. Take advantage of soups on sale and let's do over 1,000 pounds again!

thrivent Grace's ANNUAL THRIVENT MEETING and lunch is scheduled for January 12th, at 12pm. RSVP by January 8th to place your lunch order. RSVP with Chris Owens (817-247-7122).

BIBLE JOURNALING

Join us for a morning of learning, art and joy.
No experience or artistic talent needed!

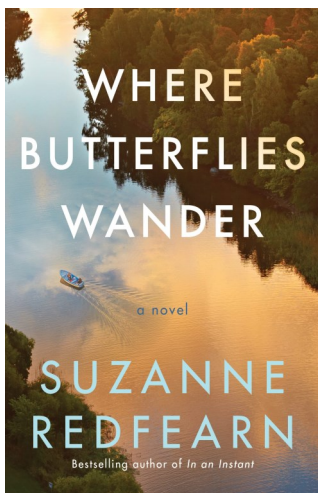
WHEN YOU GO THROUGH THE FIRE, YOU WILL BE BUILT UPON

JESUS feeds 5000

Saturday
Feb. 8, 2025

10:00 AM
12:00 AM

In person at Grace Lutheran Church
and on Zoom!



Book Club

The next meeting for our monthly book club will be **January 15th, at 2pm in the church library.** We will be reading the book "Where Butterflies Wander" by Suzanne Redfearn. The two women clash, and battle lines are drawn within Marie's family and the town as each side fights for what they believe is right, the tension rising until it reaches its breaking point. And the choice is no longer theirs when a force bigger than them all—fate—takes control. *Where Butterflies Wander* is a heart-wrenching story about a grieving family and the different ways people cope with grief.

Special Dates

- ◇ New Year's Day, Jan. 1, 2025
- ◇ Epiphany, Jan. 6, 2025
- ◇ Baptism of the Lord, Jan. 12, 2025
- ◇ Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Jan. 20, 2025
- ◇ Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
Jan. 18-25, 2025



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- 1/3 Colin Toth
- 1/5 Gary White
- 1/8 Jimmy Hankins
- 1/12 Chloe Braziel
- 1/13 Debbie Burns
- 1/15 Bill Cannon
- 1/15 Marilyn Jones
- 1/17 Alexandria Mireles Banda
- 1/17 Dick Malec
- 1/18 Shahid Ali
- 1/19 Diane Nelsen
- 1/20 Jennifer Rukavina
- 1/24 Melinda Taber
- 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
- 1/30 Mary Moretz
- 1/31 Jeanette Naumann-Patterson

Welcome To A NEW YEAR!

As we step into the new year, there's so much to look forward to! With God, every new beginning is full of promise. It's a chance to reflect on His faithfulness and trust in His plans for what's ahead. His plans are always good (Jeremiah 29:11), and we trust that He is working in and through us for His glory. Let's step forward in faith, ready to embrace His blessings, grow in His love, and share His hope with others. With God leading the way, great things are ahead!



Thank You Note

To my Grace Lutheran Church family, I want to thank everyone for the wonderful basket full of gifts. I know my missing partner would have enjoyed these gifts as much as me. God Bless you all!

Jim Kettler



We would like to express our thanks to Grace Lutheran for the Christmas Basket, which was brought by our Elder and his wife. For close to 4 years, someone has sent Charles a monthly card, with a Bible verse and note. He feels honored to receive them and we'd love to know who you are so we can thank you in person. God bless you!

Charles & Gerry Sparks

- 1/10 Lynn & Patty Smith
- 1/19 William & Jann Richmond
- 1/21 Gary & Susan White
- 1/23 Roland & Kay Savant
- 1/26 Joe & Phyllis Sparks

ELDERS & THEIR ASSIGNED MEMBERS

Joe Masterson	A-B
Hank Jacobs	C-E
David Swille	F-H
Mike Kennedy	I-L
Mike Curtis	M-O
Ernie Owens	P-R
Brian Bassett	S
Jim Schmidt	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: churchoffice@grace.lc.

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

Joseph C. Masterson

Creation: Day 1

Use this code to find out what God created on the first day of creation.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m	n	o	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	w	x	y	z

20 8 5 14
 7 15 4
 19 1 9 4
 ["]
12 5 20

20 8 5 18 5
 2 5
 12 9 7 8 20
 ^{";}
1 14 4
 20 8 5 18 5

23 1 19
 12 9 7 8 20
 1 14 4
 7 15 4
 19 1 23 20 8 1 20

20 8 5
 12 9 7 8 20
 23 1 19
 7 15 15 4
 [;]
1 14 4
 7 15 4

19 5 16 1 18 1 20 5 4
 20 8 5
 12 9 7 8 20
 6 18 15 13

20 8 5
 4 1 18 11 14 5 19 19

7 5 14 5 19 9 19
 ^{1:3-4}