



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

Newsletter FEBRUARY 2025

"Grace Receives Grant to Continue Hispanic Outreach"

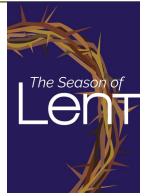
The Texas District has approved a grant which over the next two years will provide \$70,000 for ongoing outreach and training in our budding Hispanic ministry. A good share of this grant will be used to theologically equip Roberto and Lucy Espitia for ministry through Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. Roberto will pursue ordination as a pastor and Lucy seeks certification as a deaconess. This process will take four years. In addition, grant money will be used to support Pastor Juan and Deaconess Alma Zamora as they seek to multiply Hispanic ministry sites around the Metroplex. We pray God will continue to add souls to the worshipping body which meets on Sunday and the many outreach efforts in our Hispanic portfolio including English as a Second Language courses (ESL), soccer ministry, Youth Leadership courses, Women's events, community events such as La Posada and more. To God be the Glory!

Matching "Life Grant"

We're excited to announce that \$4,000 will be matched by the LC-MS towards efforts to impact the community as we seek to affirm life locally. The primary program recipient in our church will be Embrace Grace in which unwed mothers are supported. If you would like to make a contribution towards this \$4,000 matching opportunity – doubling our potential impact, please footnote your check Embrace Grace – Matching Fund. A SPECIAL THANKS to Steve Woolston, who has assisted greatly in the grant application process—his expertise was very helpful.

Lenten Season Is Coming

Beginning on Wednesday, March 5 we will be offering worship services @ 4:30 and 6:30 PM. There will be a meal between services in the Gym at 5:30 each week. Please join us for worship and fellowship as we seek to honor the work of Jesus. During Lent, beginning on Ash Wednesday, March 4, we will focus each Wednesday on one of the Seven Penitential Psalms: 6, 32, 38, 51, 102, 130, 143. These psalms have provided Christians with a powerful source of prayer and reflection during Lent for centuries. Together, they invite us to recognize our sins, express our sorrow to God and ask His forgiveness, and experience the healing touch of His merciful grace.



Emergency Contact Information Wanted

We never know when hard situations (fall, accidents...) might occur! Our Elders are collecting Emergency Contact information on <u>ALL</u> of our members. Please provide the church with name, relationship, and phone numbers of at least one emergency contact person. *Cards will be distributed in services on Feb. 2 and Feb. 9 to help gather this vital information or you can contact Ernie Owens at (817) 247-0747.* Having this information helps our Elders in serving you!

Pastor Doug Widger (Lead Shepherd)

Pastor Steve Roth (Community Care)

Dr. Serena Pace (DCE - Director of Ministries)

Mrs. Laura Scott (Director of Early Education)

Inside this issue:

inside this issue:							
Grace Receives Grant	1						
Matching "Life Grant"	1						
Lenten Season Is Coming	1						
Emergency Contact information Wanted	1						
Family Ministry News	2						
Sisters in Christ Event	3						
Grace Seniors	3						
Embrace Legacy	3						
GLEE News	4						
Memorials And Honorariums	4						
Souper Bowl of Caring	5						
Loving Liberia	5						
Prayer Meeting	6						
Bible Journaling	6						
Bdays/Anniversaries	7						
Thank You Notes	7						
Special Dates	7						
Your Elders	7						
Puzzle	8						

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

FAMILY MINISTRY SERVICE PROJECT

FOOD PACKING EVENT

Feb. 22, Peace Lutheran—Hurst

12:30—2pm slot Eat before arriving.

All ages welcome to participate!
941 Bedford Euless Rd
Hurst, TX 76053

Partner with U.S. Hunger to make a difference in the lives of people who are food insecure here in the local DFW area!

To sign up, let Serena know you are interested, and she will send you the link. space@grace.lc; 817-274-1626, x 1002



YOUTH OUTREACH MINISTRIES

Youth Leadership Program for Ages 9-14, coincides with Wednesday night ESL from 6:30—8:00 PM.

Arlington High School First Priority Club

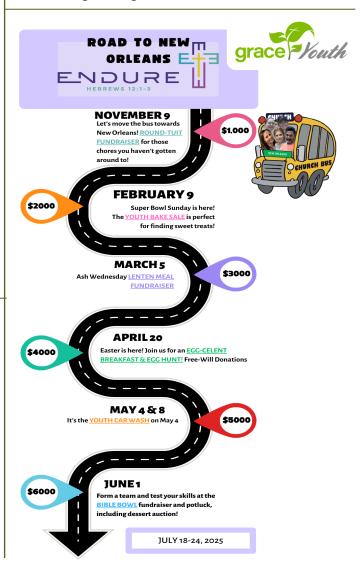
happens every Thursday from 12:30—1:20 PM. This is a student-led group, coached by Serena. Prayer to engage more teens in the Gospel is welcomed!



Middle School Matchup 2025 "CLASSIC VIDEO GAMES"

\$10—Saturday, April 5, 2025 GRADES 5 –8 9am-3pm, Crown of Life Lutheran, Colleyville

Join other Middle School Students across DFW competing in various challenges together! Lunch is included.



FAMILY MINISTRY NEWS



WHAT TO DO ABOUT THE PAIN & STIFFNESS FROM NEUROPATHY

You will learn: What neuropathy is, nutrition and neuropathy and the latest advances in treatments.

PAIN & STIFFNESS

FROM

NEUROPATHY

LEARN WHAT IT IS,

NUTRITION, & THE

LATEST ADVANCES

IN TREATMENTS.

DR MEYER, WORLD MEDICAL GROUP

BRING A FRIEND! SPACE@GRACE.LC

817-274-1626, X1002

GRACE SENIORS

FEBRUARY 13

LUNCH 'N LEARN

CHICKEN GNOCCHI

SOUP, OLIVE GARDEN BREAD, SALAD &

DESSERT

12 - 1:30 PM, FIRESIDE

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



EMBRACE GRACE

RSVP in the Lobby or contact Serena by

February 9. Invite a friend!

Is this a ministry you feel called to support or serve 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.

We are blessed to have received a matching grant from LCMS Life Ministries up to \$4000 to go towards this special outreach ministry. If you would like your donation to be matched, you may write a check marked "Embrace Grace" or give online by text or through

PushPay under "Ways to Give." Choose the Embrace Grace fund.

This is love.





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 living tribute honoring a loved one or a friend.

The following gifts have been gratefully received in loving memory of dear ones within our Grace Lutheran Family who have been called to their Eternal Home in Heaven.

BRAILLE MINISTRY

In memory of Mary Shelton by: Ginny Hankins.

<u>GLC PAVILLION</u> (a proposed project held dear to the heart of Sid Cook) In memory of Sid Cook by: Tom & Olivia Jung, Ardis & Greg Hutchins.

MUSIC MINISTRY - BELLS

For Bells in Music department in honor of an awesome, helpful member in our church, by: Gene & Vickie Rosentreter.

GENERAL GRACE NEWS

Loving Liberia

Psalm 149:1 says, "Praise the Lord. Sing to the LORD a new song, his praise in the assembly of his saints." This day and always we give the Lord Jesus our praise and thanksgiving for moving us forward in building a new school in Monrovia, Liberia. The foundation digging you see is for three



classrooms. To keep costs down and employ local people, Change Agent Network has decided on our behalf to build these three classrooms with one room housing the workers, a second classroom housing the materials and a third classroom housing the kitchen and other supplies.

Concrete has been poured, and blocks and bricks are being laid. Lord Jesus, we thank you for our partnership with CAN and with the members of Grace Lutheran Church and other churches and preschools. We are very blessed! Thank you for your partnership in the gospel of Jesus Christ as children will hear the gospel, be given a Christian education, and the community in Monrovia will have students who will help pull Liberia out of poverty.

Three out of ten people living in Monrovia, the capital city of Liberia live in poverty. It is a different story for those who live in rural areas where eight out of ten live in poverty. Perry's first school which is in his home village, is in the interior rural section of Liberia. Teaching these children is so important because they do not have television, computers and social media. We have the opportunity to share the gospel of Jesus and to teach computers, math, English and more to the children to break the cycle of poverty. With your help and prayers lives are being changed and the kingdom of Jesus is spread.

Blessings,

Pastor Hildebrandt

Thrivent Upcoming Events

SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY IS ALMOST HERE! We're still collecting soup for Arlington Charities. 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!



Join Us For Our Prayer Meeting!

Join us for a powerful Prayer Meeting at Grace Lutheran Church on February 20th at 6:30 PM in the Fireside Room. Our theme, "Renewal of Expectation", is a reminder that through Christ, we are called to live with hope and anticipation.

Together, we'll seek God's presence, reflect on

1 Peter 1:3, "All praise to God, the Father of our Lord

Jesus Christ. It is by his great mercy that we have been born again, because God raised Jesus Christ from the dead. Now we live with great expectation." I Peter 1:3

(New Living Translation). Don't miss this time of prayer, worship, and encouragement!

We need the Lord to give us a fresh expectation of what He is able to do within HIS church and in our lives.



- Do you ever pray because you know you're supposed to, but you don't actually expect God to answer?
- We must not put God in our box of limited expectations.
- We need to come humbly before our God and believe that he "is able to do above and beyond all that we ask or think according to the power that works within us?" (Eph. 3:20)
- We need to ask boldly and be willing to adjust our lives to what we are praying.
- Godly expectation is not merely wishful thinking; it is an assurance of God's faithfulness in showing mercy and grace to His Church.

We prepare for this Prayer Meeting by praying for those who will lead us in prayer.

- Encouraging others to attend.
- Acknowledge where we must change and adjust our lives.
- Raising our own expectations of what the Lord can do.
- Remember and give thanks for what the Lord is already doing.



Special Dates

- African American History Month
- ♦ Groundhog Day, February 2, 2025
- ♦ Valentine's Day, February 14, 2025
- ♦ Presidents Day, February 17, 2025





FEBRUARY

2/10 Tommy & Elizabeth Ott2/12 James & Olena Gerhardt2/14 Ernie & Chris Owens2/14 Larry & Darla Creel

Thank You Notes

Dear Grace Church Family,

Thank you so much for the abundant gift of goodies sent to me at Christmas time. It was such fun to through the package and discover the many different gifts. Each on was very special to me. I thank you too for your faithful prayers for Mark and myself. Blessing And Love To All,



Kathy Lauer

Dear Grace Family,

It is such a blessing to belong to a church with caring and generous people. Thank you the wonderful Christmas basket and the cards you sent that brightened my day. I pray God blesses you richly. In Christian Love,

Carol Hall

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.

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 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

ELDERS & THEIR ASSIGNED MEMBERS

Joe Masterson A-B
Hank Jacobs C-E
Keith Mangels 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

How Do We know it's True Love?

True love is super simple to spot. Just look for the following traits:

U	N	D	E	R	S	T	A	N	D	I	N	G	X	Q	W	A	S	Т
K	E	F	Α	I	Т	Н	F	U	L	О	Y	Α	L	В	M	D	F	R
S	Т	E	A	G	F	E	Α	С	Α	R	I	N	G	G	E	I	D	U
N	D	T	R	Н	U	L	U	О	О	D	L	E	О	V	R	L	N	S
R	L	I	N	T	D	В	S	N	О	U	P	M	R	I	С	E	I	Т
Е	U	С	R	E	R	M	S	T	F	О	R	G	I	V	I	N	G	W
G	F	U	N	О	Н	U	M	E	P	A	D	T	О	G	F	I	N	0
N	E	В	T	U	В	Н	S	N	W	T	K	N	E	О	U	E	I	R
Α	Т	T	E	S	E	E	U	T	Α	Н	I	U	E	О	L	L	T	Т
0	Α	N	X	L	L	P	Α	T	I	E	N	T	S	D	U	N	F	Н
Т	R	E	W	F	I	J	U	S	T	N	D	Н	S	F	F	S	I	Y
W	G	T	L	P	P	E	G	R	G	L	G	Α	Y	U	R	С	L	P
0	W	E	С	О	N	S	V	Α	E	T	I	О	K	L	E	E	P	Α
L	S	U	P	P	О	R	Т	I	V	E	J	I	В	R	Y	K	U	Т
S	Н	E	L	P	F	U	L	L	N	С	О	N	S	T	Α	N	T	Y
Е	V	E	R	L	Α	S	Т	I	N	G	P	E	A	С	R	E	J	О
S	Т	E	Α	D	Y	E	T	Α	N	О	I	S	S	A	P	M	0	С

patient kind trusting content humble courteous selfless grateful

slow to anger forgiving joyful righteous pure just supportive steady believing helpful constant good understanding faithful true caring trustworthy merciful loyal uplifting compassionate prayerful everlasting warm