

PASTOR DOUG WIDGER (LEAD SHEPHERD) | PASTOR STEVE ROTH (COMMUNITY CARE)  
DR. SERENA PACE (DCE - DIRECTOR OF MINISTRIES) | MR. WILL LAND (MUSIC DIRECTOR)  
MRS. LAURA SCOTT (DIRECTOR OF EARLY EDUCATION) | MRS. EMILY MASSEY (COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR)  
MS. LISBETH RUIZ (ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT) | VICAR ROBERTO ESPITIA | DEACONESS INTERN LUCÍA ESPITIA



NIGHT 1 OF GRACE FAMILY NIGHTS



Grace Lutheran Church \* **New Series** \* Starting Sunday, June 7

*Summer of*  
**GOOD NEWS**

### Summer of Good News: Current Series

As we continue our "Summer of Good News" worship series, we invite you to join us each Sunday as we explore the assigned Gospel readings and grow in our understanding of God's magnificent love in Christ.

We will continue worshipping in the Gymnasium at 9:30 AM while accessibility improvements connected to the "Prepare the Way" project are underway. Thank you for your patience and flexibility as we make our campus more welcoming and accessible for all.

## PREPARE THE WAY CAMPAIGN



The "Prepare the Way" accessibility project is well underway! Thanks to the generosity of God's people at Grace and beyond, pledges and gifts have now totaled \$302,166 toward this important effort. Construction continues on the Narthex renovations and accessibility improvements, and we have

included photos in this newsletter so you can see the progress being made. As work continues, both our English and Spanish worship services will remain in the Family Life Center (Gymnasium). We are grateful for your patience and flexibility during this season of renovation as we work to make our campus more welcoming and accessible for all. **CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE >**

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## PREPARE THE WAY CAMPAIGN

Your generous gifts and pledges to the Prepare the Way campaign are not only making it possible to complete the project but helps to cover some unanticipated expenses (not unusual in any renovation project). Even though the original budget included contingency funds, it wasn't quite enough, and now if everyone is able to meet their commitment, we'll be able to cover the cost, with a few added touches. Additional project information, updates, and a video overview can be found at [grace.lc/preparetheway](http://grace.lc/preparetheway).



## CHURCH OFFICE CONTACTS

### Church Office

churchoffice@grace.lc | (817) 274-1626

Monday-Friday | 9AM-5PM

### Director of Operations, Cynthia Jackson

cjackson@grace.lc | (817) 274-1626 ext. 1004

### Director of Ministries, Serena Pace

space@grace.lc | (817) 274-1626 ext. 1002

### Grace Lutheran Early Education (GLEE)

Director, Laura Scott | lscott@grace.lc | (817) 275-5135

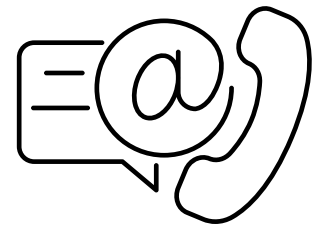
Monday-Friday | 7AM-5:30PM

### Director of Communications, Emily Massey

emassey@grace.lc | (817) 274-1626 ext. 1008

### Administrative Assistant, Lisbeth Ruiz

lrui@grace.lc | (817) 274-1626 ext. 1005



Please keep these contacts handy for RSVPs, questions, and events highlighted in this newsletter. If there's anything else you need, don't hesitate to contact the Church Office—we're happy to help!

# UPCOMING EVENTS & UPDATES

## Braille Ministry Updates

The Braille Center will be taking a summer break during July and August as we use this time to get organized and build our volunteer teams for the future.

If you have ever considered becoming involved in the Braille Ministry, now is a great time to learn more! This outreach ministry helps bring God's Word to individuals who are blind or visually impaired. In addition to this meaningful work, our volunteers enjoy fellowship and friendship while working together, and some teams even gather for meals afterward to continue the camaraderie.

We currently have openings on both daytime and evening teams. Each team consists of 7-8 volunteers, and no prior experience is necessary.

For more information or to get involved, please contact Uvonne at (817) 793-6811. Thank you for helping us share God's Word with those who cannot read standard print.



# GRACE LUTHERAN EARLY EDUCATION NEWS



Fall Enrollment is open — and we have a few more spots available! We're excited to welcome new families to our preschool this fall! Our program provides a nurturing, Christ-centered environment for children ages 6 weeks through 5 years, where little ones can learn, grow, play, and thrive.

Whether you're looking for infant care, or Pre-K, we'd love to help your child build a strong foundation for both learning and faith. Spaces are filling, but we still have openings available! If you—or someone you know—are searching for a caring, engaging place for their child, now is a great time to reach out.

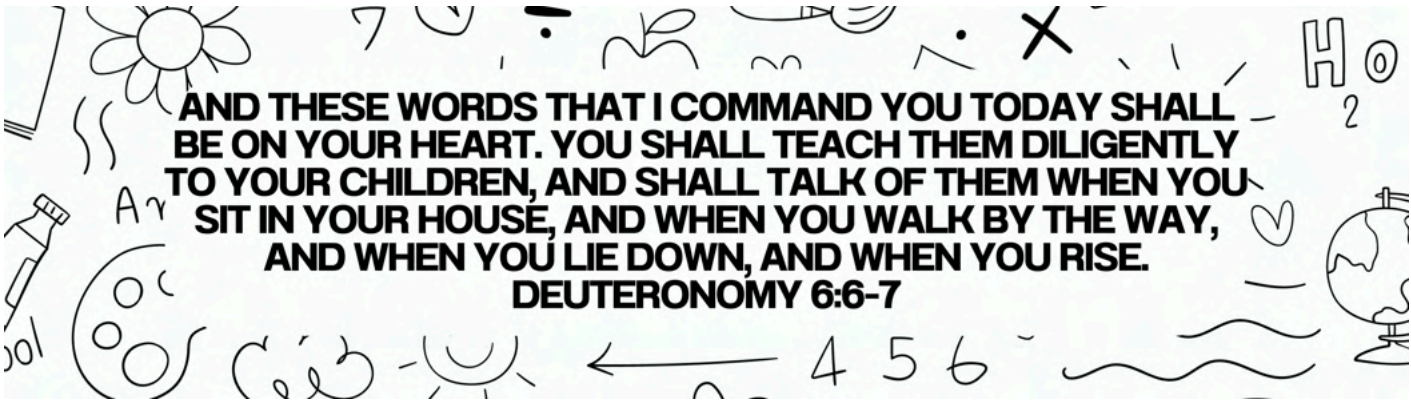
Contact us today to schedule a tour, learn more about our programs, or reserve your child's spot. We're happy to answer any questions and help you get started!

[iscott@grace.lc](mailto:iscott@grace.lc) | (817) 275-5131 | [grace.lc/earlyeducation](http://grace.lc/earlyeducation)



## New Parent Resources Page

GLEE families now have a dedicated parent resource page! Visit [grace.lc/for-parents](http://grace.lc/for-parents) to find important information, upcoming events, lunch menus, calendars, forms, and other helpful resources all in one convenient place. Be sure to bookmark it and check back often for updates!



# WOMENS MINISTRY NEWS



*Christmas in July*

**Sisters In Christ**

JOIN US FOR A WONDERFUL TIME OF CREATIVITY, FOOD, AND FELLOWSHIP AS WE GATHER TOGETHER TO BLESS OTHERS.

MAKE A CARD (OR MORE!) FOR YOURSELF AND FOR OUR FRIENDS WHO RECEIVE CHRISTMAS BASKETS.

WOMEN OF ALL AGES ARE INVITED TO ATTEND, AND BRING A FRIEND!

THURSDAY, JULY 16 | 4-7PM  
RSVP REQUIRED TO SERENA,  
OR USE SIGNUP SHEET  
SPACE@GRACE.LC | (817) 274-1626

## Christmas in July Service Event

Make a card (or more!) for yourself and for our homebound Christmas baskets. Join us for a wonderful time of creativity, food, and fellowship as we gather together to bless others. Women of all ages are invited to attend—bring a friend and enjoy an afternoon of fun, connection, and service!

**Thursday, July 16 | 4-7PM**

**Contact Serena for any additional information.**



## Women's Retreat

Join our sisters from Our Redeemer, Irving and other area LCMS churches at Mt. Lebanon for a retreat at Cedar Hill, day or overnight. Costs are all inclusive, and differ between room styles. Bunk-style is \$75, Motel-style is \$125, and Saturday only is \$25.

Let's gather a group and enjoy fellowship with our sisters in Christ! Contact Serena to sign up with our group!



*Welcome to the Table*

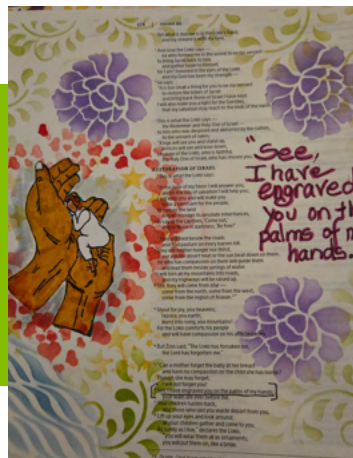
**WOMEN'S RETREAT  
RESCHEDULED FOR  
SEPTEMBER 25, 2026**

**SAVE THE DATE!  
Registration Now Open**

**Mt Lebanon Conference Center**  
1701 Texas Plume Rd, Cedar Hill

**For details, contact:**  
Laura Brammer (469-434-0078) or  
Paula Ferguson (214-543-2741)

**COST**  
Bunk-style: \$75  
Motel-style: \$125  
Sat only: \$25



## Bible Journaling

Our Bible Journaling group recently completed a study through the Book of Esther and created many beautiful journal pages reflecting on God's providence, faithfulness, and care for His people. Through Scripture, creativity, and fellowship, participants were encouraged to engage more deeply with God's Word.

The group meets via Zoom and welcomes anyone interested in combining Bible study with creative expression. The next meeting will be Saturday, July 18, at 10:00 AM. To receive the Zoom link or learn more, please contact the church office.

# HISPANIC MINISTRY NEWS



## ESL Ministry Updates

Our ESL Ministry recently celebrated another successful semester, recognizing students who completed their courses and reached important milestones in their English-learning journey. We thank God for their dedication and are proud of all they have accomplished.

As our summer English classes are now underway, it has been a blessing to welcome new students from a wide variety of countries each Wednesday. Between 45 and 60 students attend each week, all united by the common goal of learning English and building connections within our community.

If you speak English and would like to help others improve their pronunciation, vocabulary, and conversational skills, we would love for you to join our volunteer team. All materials are provided, and no teaching experience is required. Classes meet on Wednesdays at 6:30 PM.

If you are interested in serving or would like more information, please contact Lisbeth through the church office at (817) 274-1626 or by email at [Lruiz@grace.lc](mailto:Lruiz@grace.lc). Thank you for helping us share Christ's love while serving our neighbors through this important ministry.



## Mujeres en Gracia Picnic

With great joy and gratitude to God, we celebrated our first Women's Picnic—a morning filled with fellowship, laughter, and blessings. It was a wonderful opportunity to strengthen friendships, share in our faith together, and welcome 10 women who participated in this ministry for the first time.

During the devotional, "Daughters of Our Heavenly Father," we reflected on Jesus' words in Matthew 18:3: "Unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven." We were reminded that our Heavenly Father invites us to come to Him with childlike trust and simplicity, resting in His love. A particularly meaningful activity was writing letters to God, expressing gratitude, prayers, and hopes.

We thank the Lord for every woman who participated and for the friendships that were strengthened during this gathering. We left with hearts full of joy, remembering that in Christ we are beloved daughters of God and encouraged to continue growing together in faith.



## 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 1-5 in GLEE wing
  - Grades 6-8 (Confirmation) in Meeting Room 4 (Top Left)
  - Grades 9-12 in Youth Shed
  - Biblical Parenting Group in GLEE wing
- NO BIBLE CLASS ON JULY 5<sup>TH</sup>



Wednesday, July 15; 6-8PM  
Youth Movie Night  
Youth Shed, Grades 6-12  
RSVP with Serena,  
and contact for questions.

**BLAZE WEEK**  
SERVE. GROW. CELEBRATE.  
JULY 6 - 9 | 8AM - 4PM  
FOR GRADES 6-12 | \$60  
COMMUNITY SERVICE LUNCH TOGETHER  
BIBLE STUDY DAILY FUN  
churchoffice@grace.lc | 817-274-1626

**GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**FAMILIES**  
**YOU'RE INVITED!**  
**Grill & Chill**  
Sunday, July 12, 2026 5:00-pm-8:00  
**GRILL'S HOT AND DRINKS ARE COLD. COME HANG WITH US FOR A CASUAL EVENING OF FOOD, FRIENDS, FELLOWSHIP, AND FUN!**  
**BRING YOUR LAWN CHAIR AND A NUT-FREE SNACK TO SHARE.**  
The Nieves Home  
Please contact for address & RSVP  
space@grace.lc  
(817) 274-1626

## YOUNG ADULTS UPDATES

The Young Adults Ministry recently gathered for a fun Build-a-Board Night filled with food, fellowship, and great conversation. It was wonderful to welcome new faces and spend time getting to know one another better. We are excited to see this group continue to grow and look forward to future opportunities!

Following the event, participants completed a survey that provided valuable insight into the needs and hopes of young adults in our community. Many shared that they are seeking Christian friendship, Bible study, service opportunities, and a supportive community where they can grow in their faith. We were especially encouraged to learn that 100% of respondents said they would feel comfortable inviting a friend to attend. One participant even boldly emphasized the need for prayer and support, reminding us of the importance of fostering authentic Christian relationships in this stage of life.

Our next gathering is still being finalized, but we are tentatively planning a "Just Show Up" night on Friday, July 3, at 7:00 PM. Watch for a confirmation and invitation once the details have been finalized!

Please keep this ministry in your prayers. Pray that God would continue to bring young adults into Christian community, strengthen their faith through His Word, build lasting friendships, and use this ministry to connect more people to Christ and His Church.

**SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS | 10:45am in MR1 | Led by Martin B**

# MOMENTS FROM THIS MONTH

ROME: GRACE FAMILY NIGHTS VBS



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ROME: GRACE FAMILY NIGHTS VBS



## VOLUNTEER TEAM!



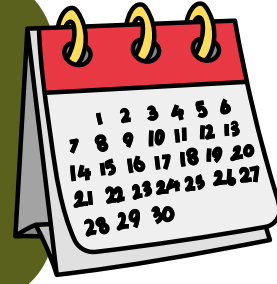
THANK YOU!

Dear Grace Family,

What a wonderful time we had at Rome Family Nights VBS! Your prayers, time, flexibility and donations allowed families to gather, meet new friends, and learn about the early church. What a blessing it was to praise God together here in this place. SHOUT OUT to our kitchen Team, Prep Team, A/V Team, Family Leaders, Marketplace Leaders, Actors and ALL who helped bring Rome VBS to life. You are all God's blessings, and to Him be the glory!

## Special Dates

- Church Office & GLEE Closed, *July 3, 2026*
- Young Adults Just Show Up (Tentative), *July 3, 2026*
- Independence Day, *July 4, 2026*
- Blaze Week, *July 6-9, 2026*
- Grace Family Grill & Chill, *July 12, 2026*
- Bible Journaling, *July 18, 2026*



## JULY BIRTHDAYS

- Nick Swille — July 1
- Jessica N. Krueger — July 3
- Duane Schluter — July 3
- Gerry Sparks — July 3
- Edwin Moreno — July 4
- Liam French — July 5
- Phyllis Sparks — July 5
- Victoria R. Smith — July 6
- Paul Olson — July 6
- Sarah Smith — July 7
- Kristen Stock — July 7
- Dorothy Davies — July 8
- Amy Homeyer — July 8
- Andrew Schmidt — July 10
- David Joeckel — July 13
- Jan Penland — July 14
- Larry Creel — July 15
- Samantha Quarrier — July 15
- Mike Curtis — July 16
- Joyce Pinnow — July 16
- Matthew Gutierrez — July 17
- Robin Williams — July 17
- John Spawr — July 18
- Tracey Rukavina — July 18
- Emily R. Schmidt — July 19
- DelRay Alberts — July 20
- Erin Jacobs — July 21
- Lindsay Ali — July 23
- Mary Thiede — July 26
- Steven Woolston — July 26
- Tommy Smith — July 29
- Ronan B. Scoggins — July 30
- Nat Davies — July 31



## JULY ANNIVERSARIES

- Don & Cynthia Walker — July 2, 1982
- John & Delane Peery — July 3, 1964
- Jim & Kristin Braziel — July 6, 1991
- Jerry & Melonnie Pollard — July 7, 1990
- Donald & Sharon Alloy — July 12, 1958
- Eric & Lauren Roe — July 13, 2019
- Michael & Linda Johnson — July 27, 1966



Grace Lutheran Church  
(817) 274-1626 | [churchoffice@grace.lc](mailto:churchoffice@grace.lc)  
Online at: [grace.lc](http://grace.lc)  
210 W Park Row Dr., Arlington, TX 76010

## Grace Spotlight: We'd Love to Feature You!

Beginning in our August newsletter, we'll be launching a new section called Grace Spotlight, where we'll feature members of our Grace family and learn a little more about one another.

Would you like to be featured? Simply email your responses to the questions below, along with a photo of yourself or your family, to Emily at [emassey@grace.lc](mailto:emassey@grace.lc) by July 20.

We look forward to highlighting the people who make Grace such a special place and helping our church family grow closer together!

### Grace Spotlight Questions

- Name(s)
- How long have you attended Grace?
- What brought you to Grace?
- Favorite Bible verse?
- Favorite Grace memory or ministry?
- Something fun about yourself that others may not know?
- How can the Grace family pray for you?

**AND LET US NOT GROW WEARY OF  
DOING GOOD, FOR IN DUE SEASON WE  
WILL REAP, IF WE DO NOT GIVE UP.  
GALATIANS 6:9**