NOVEMBER 2026

grace LUTHERAN CHURCH

belong · believe · become

210 W PARK ROW DR.
ARLINGTON, TX 76010
(817) 274-1626
ONLINE: GRACE.LC

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)



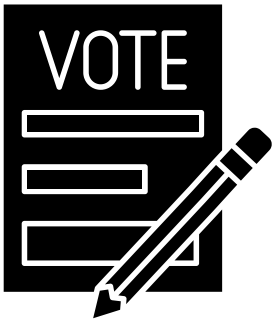
FALL FAMILY FESTIVAL - SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25



Fall Back! Time Change is coming!



Don't forget to turn your clocks back one hour before bed on Saturday, October 31! On Sunday, November 1, at 2:00am, clocks will move back to 1:00am. Enjoy that extra hour of sleep, and join us for worship on Sunday, November 1, feeling refreshed and ready for a new week.



Annual Voters Meeting

Save the date for our Annual Voters Meeting on Sunday, November 8, after the worship service. We ask that all members please plan to attend. We will have three main agenda items:

1. Election of Officers
2. Approval of Recommended Budget for 2027
3. Hearing recommendations of Long-Range Property Committee, Legacy Fund and BOD regarding parking lot

Your participation matters! God speaks through the voice of his people.



Advent Midweek Services

Save the dates, and join us for Advent services at 5:30 PM on Wednesday evenings, December 2, 9, and 16. More details coming soon! We look forward to preparing our hearts together for the celebration of Christ's birth.

In this newsletter:

Upcoming Events & Updates	1-3
Welcoming New Members	2
Memorials & Honorariums	3
Men's Ministry News	4
Women's Ministry	4
Young Adults News	4-5
Grace Seniors	5
Family Ministry News	5-6
GLEE News	6
Church Office Contacts	7
Hispanic Ministry	8
Moments of the Month	9-15
Special Dates, Birthdays & Anniversaries	16

UPCOMING EVENTS & UPDATES

Welcoming New Members

On Sunday, October 11, we joyfully welcomed new members into our Grace family of faith! We give thanks to God for bringing them into our congregation and look forward to growing together in Christ as we worship, serve, and share His love. Please join us in making them feel at home at Grace!



Jonathan Gladden

I was raised in South Carolina and moved to Texas in the late 90s. I have also lived in Houston, El Paso, and Germany. I know German and some Spanish. I LOVE to cook, and lately, you can find me on the grill every weekend making anything from burgers to pumpkin!

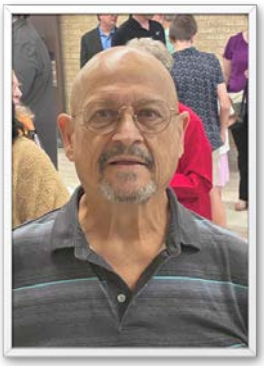
Tiffany Thompson

I was born and raised in Philadelphia, PA and moved to Texas in 2024 to start my beautiful family. I currently work at GLEE and I have been working with children, (infant-5th grade,) for about 8 years. As many of you know, we have a 1.5-year-old son, Hudson, who is growing up way too fast! I turned a hobby into a business in 2020 through crafting; it is what saved my sanity during the pandemic!

Pamela Stewart



My home was in Mentor Ohio, East of Cleveland. After I met my husband, we moved to Texas in 1984. I have two daughters, Michelle and Jacqueline, and four grandchildren, all of whom live close by me here in Arlington, except for Michelle and family. I had been a member of Peace Lutheran Church in Garland for several years until they closed in December of 2020. I then became a member of Tree of Life in Garland, Texas. My hobbies are paint by number pictures, baking, singing, and enjoying life with my family and friends. I have really enjoyed being a part of Tree of Life, but I look forward to getting to know more people who love Jesus here.



John Savering

I was born in San Angelo, Texas. Stepfather was in the military and we traveled a lot. Settled in Sun Prairie, Wisconsin. Baptized in the Catholic Church, not raised in any church. Became a WELS Lutheran in 1975 after marrying first wife. Joined Missouri Synod Lutheran in 1980. Raised my two sons. Met Dana in 1999 and married in 2000. Dana also has two sons, in total of four sons, eight grandchildren and one great grandson. I've worked in HVAC for 40 years.



Dana Savering

I was born in Dallas and grew up in the Lutheran Church. I worked as a secretary for many years. Met my husband, John, in church. Between us we have four sons, eight grandchildren, and one great grandson. We love dogs and currently have six. I enjoy sitting on my deck enjoying the birds and squirrels.



UPCOMING EVENTS & UPDATES



The Holy Smokers Are Smoking Again!

We are smoking whole turkeys (avg 10-12 lbs.), turkey breast (avg 6-8 lbs.), whole or half pork loins, and sausage (mild 14 ounce or spicy 12 ounce) on Wednesday, November 25, 2026. These are pre-cooked weights. There will be a signup sheet in the Narthex, or you can call Brian Rukavina at 817-229-9703, or Ernie Owens at 817-247-0747.
We ask that all orders be PRE-PAID: $40.00 per whole turkey, $35.00 for the turkey breast, $40.00 for whole pork loin, $20.00 for a half pork loin, and mild sausage is $8.00 per ring and spicy sausage is $10.00. Checks can be placed in the envelope attached to the signup sheet, or cash can be given to Cynthia, Ernie, or Brian. Make checks out to Grace Lutheran Church, and in the memo, write Holy Smokers.
Deadline to sign up for turkeys, pork loins and sausage will be after church service on Sunday, November 22.
We are planning pickup time for Wednesday, November 25, around 2:00 pm. We will call with updated time.
Anyone interested in joining the Holy Smokers please join us Wednesday morning, November 25 around 7 am.



Senior Care Christmas Baskets

Beginning Sunday, November 1, we'll be collecting items for our Senior Care Christmas Baskets! We invite you to help bless our senior members by purchasing one or more requested items. Sign-up sheets will be available in the Narthex starting November 1.

Please bring all donated items to church by November 29. Our baskets will be assembled on Friday, December 4, and delivered by our elders during the second week of December.

Thank you for helping us share Christ's love and Christmas joy with our senior members! If you have any questions, please contact Alison Roth at 718-885-5980.



Church Office Closures

The church office will be closed Thursday, November 26, and Friday, November 27, in observance of Thanksgiving. We wish you and your family a blessed and joyful Thanksgiving filled with gratitude for God's many blessings.



A Memorial is a monetary gift designated to a Grace Ministry as a living memorial in memory of a loved one or a friend.

From September 18, 2026 through October 19, 2026, the following gifts were gratefully received.

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

- In memory of Janet Leffler – Barb Spivy

MUSIC & WORSHIP ARTS

- In memory of Sharon Alloy – Marilyn Roberts, Red & Susan Hoar

MEN'S MINISTRY

Men of Grace Community Service Project

Calling all Men of Grace! On November 13th, we will be preparing and serving dinner for residents at the Arlington Life Shelter (ALS) located at 325 W. Division Street, Arlington, Texas, 76011. If you've never served at the ALS before, please consider this amazing ministry opportunity...and if you have, come join us again!

We will prepare and serve dinner, interact with the residents, and share some men's fellowship. Plan to arrive at ALS at 4:30 pm and we should be finished by 7:00 pm. Check the narthex for a sign up sheet or contact Steve Woolston at (817) 320-5130.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

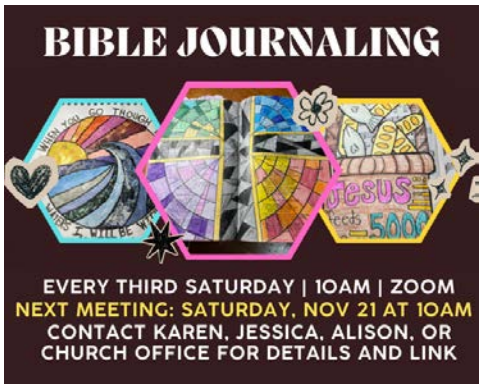


Sisters in Christ Ornament Exchange

Saturday, November 14 | 9:30–11:30am

Join Sisters in Christ on Saturday, November 14, from 9:30–11:30 AM in Meeting Room 2 for a morning of fellowship, breakfast, and holiday fun! Please bring a wrapped ornament valued between $10–$15 to participate in the exchange. Breakfast will be provided, and childcare is available upon request.

Please RSVP to Serena or sign up in the Narthex by November 8. You can also contact space@grace.lc or call (817) 274-1626.



Bible Journaling

Looking for a creative way to spend time in God's Word? Join our Bible Journaling Group as we explore Scripture through art, color, and reflection! We meet every third Saturday at 10:00 AM on Zoom.

Our next meeting is Saturday, November 21, at 10:00 AM. Contact Karen, Jessica, Alison, or the church office for more information and the Zoom link. All are welcome!

YOUNG ADULTS' MINISTRY

Young Adults Gatherings

There's lots to look forward to with Grace Young Adults! Join us for opportunities to serve, connect, and celebrate together this holiday season. Reach out to Emily to signup or with any questions.

- Service Day – Saturday, November 14: We'll meet at Mission Arlington to help sort and package Thanksgiving meals for families in need, then head out to eat together afterward!
- Friendsgiving – Friday, November 20: Bring your appetite and join us for a night of food, fellowship, and gratitude! Please signup and bring a dish to share. Location to be announced.
- Christmas Party – Friday, December 4: Celebrate the season with us at the Mangel's home for an evening of Christmas fun and fellowship! More details to come.

Young Adults Sunday Bible Class

Join our Young Adults every Sunday at 10:45AM following the worship service for Bible study and discussion. We're currently working through Jesus Said What? by Chris Kennedy, exploring some of Jesus' most challenging teachings and what they mean for our lives today. The study is led by Martin Bode, and new faces are always welcome!

Stay Connected with Young Adults

Want to stay in the loop? We have a GroupMe chat where we share upcoming events, gatherings, and important updates for our Young Adults group! Whether you're a regular or just getting connected, you're welcome to join us. Scan the QR code or use the link below to join the conversation and stay connected: https://groupme.com/join_group/106818171/W2FvX8gF

GRACE SENIORS NEWS



Grace Seniors: Aloha!

Aloha, Grace Seniors! Join us on Thursday, November 12, from 12:00–1:45 PM for a Hawaiian-themed gathering filled with fellowship, a Hawaiian meal, and fun. Our guest speaker, Sandra Vance, will share helpful information about Medicare and what you need to know. We look forward to seeing you there! For questions or to signup, contact Serena.

FAMILY MINISTRY NEWS

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDIES
10:45—11:45 a.m.
· *Nursery for Children 3 and under meets in the Mesquite Room during worship and the Bible Study hour with Ms. Angela. A Comfort Room is provided at the back of the Sanctuary for small children with their parents. A Nursing Room is also available for mothers and their babies in the Seedlings Room. Changing tables are located in the main Narthex/Lobby bathrooms and in the FLC (Women's Bathroom)*
· Preschool 4's-K in the Cedar Room & Grades 1-5 in Pecan Room in the GLEE Wing
· Grades 6-8 "Deep End" in Meeting Room 4
· High School in Youth Shed
· Biblical Parenting Group in GLEE wing

gracekids

GRACE KIDS (Grades 1 – 5)
EVERY WEDNESDAY NIGHT | 6:30 – 8PM
This month: November 4, 11, 18 | MR4
Snacks, Games, Devotion & Prayer! Bring a friend!





Children's Christmas Program Rehearsal

Our Christmas Program rehearsals begin Sunday, November 29, at 10:45 AM in the Sanctuary! We'd love for your child to be part of this special celebration of Christ's birth. If your child would like to participate, please let Serena know. We look forward to sharing the joy of Christmas together!

Family Serve Day

Join us on Saturday, November 21, from 8:30 AM–12:30 PM for a special day of serving together! Grace Youth, Kids, and their families are invited to come make a difference in our community while sharing Christ's love through service. We'll wrap up our morning with a pizza lunch. Please RSVP to Serena by November 19. We hope you can join us!



Recess: Middle School Retreat

NOVEMBER 6-7, 7PM – 7PM
Lake Lavon Camp & Conference Center, Princeton, TX, $125

We'll leave from the church at 4:15 PM. Get ready for a great time of faith, fellowship, and fun! If you have any questions, please contact Serena.

Fall Family Festival: THANK YOU!

A heartfelt thank-you to everyone who supported our Fall Fest through prayers, donations, and volunteer hours! Your generosity and willingness to serve helped make this event possible and allowed us to share Christ's love with our community. A special thank-you to our wonderful vendors and community partners: LCMS Service Dogs, Metroplex Women's Clinic, Thrivent, Housing Channel, and Hispanic Real Estate, for being part of this special day. We're so grateful to have such a wonderful church and preschool family! See more photos on page 10.





GRACE LUTHERAN EARLY EDUCATION NEWS

From Our Spring Creek Fundraiser

We're so grateful to everyone who came out to Spring Creek BBQ and supported our fundraiser! Thanks to your generosity, we're celebrating with $1200 towards our preschool and lots of happy faces!

A huge thank-you to Spring Creek BBQ for partnering with us and to everyone who showed up to eat, give, and support our kids. Your support makes a difference, and we're so thankful to be part of such a wonderful community! Thank you for making this fundraiser a success!



FROM THE CHURCH STAFF

Thank You From Our Staff

Thank you, Grace family, for the thoughtful notes, generous gifts, and kind words shared with our staff during this season of appreciation! Your encouragement means so much to each of us and reminds us what a blessing it is to serve alongside such a loving church family. We are grateful for the opportunity to serve the Lord and His people at Grace. Thank you for making us feel so loved and appreciated!

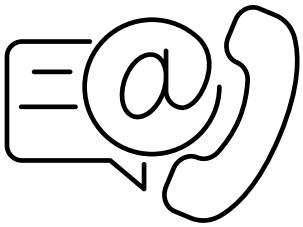


CHURCH OFFICE CONTACTS

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
lruiz@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!

UPDATING OUR CHURCH DATABASE



Keep Us Updated!

Help us keep our church records up to date! Please let us know when you have a life change, such as a new phone number, email address, or mailing address. We'd also love to celebrate important milestones with you, including birthdays, wedding anniversaries, baptisms, confirmations, and other significant dates.

If you have an update to share, please contact the church office, or write it down on a pew card during the worship service. We're grateful for the opportunity to stay connected and celebrate life's special moments with you!

HISPANIC MINISTRY NEWS



Welcoming to our Family in Christ!

With joy and gratitude to God, we welcome Omar and Ivanna Sarmiento as new members of Grace Lutheran Church. We are delighted to receive them into our congregation and thank the Lord for this blessing. We pray that together we may continue to grow in faith, strengthened by His Word and united in the love of Christ.

BIENVENIDO



Mujeres En Gracia Breakfast

What if God's will is different from what we expected? That question guided our Mujeres en Gracia (women's ministry) gathering on October 17 as we reflected on Matthew 6:10 and what it means to pray, "Lord, Your will be done," even when life doesn't go as planned.

We were reminded that trusting God doesn't mean understanding everything, but resting in the love of our Heavenly Father, whose saving will is revealed in Jesus Christ.

We are especially grateful to Deaconess María Baron for leading our devotion and sharing God's Word. It was a blessing to welcome women, including some who may have been hearing the Gospel for the first time, through invitations from friends and neighbors.

That is the heart of Mujeres en Gracia: sharing the Good News of Christ with more women, homes, and families. In Him, we find forgiveness, grace, and hope for whatever tomorrow may bring.

GRACIAS

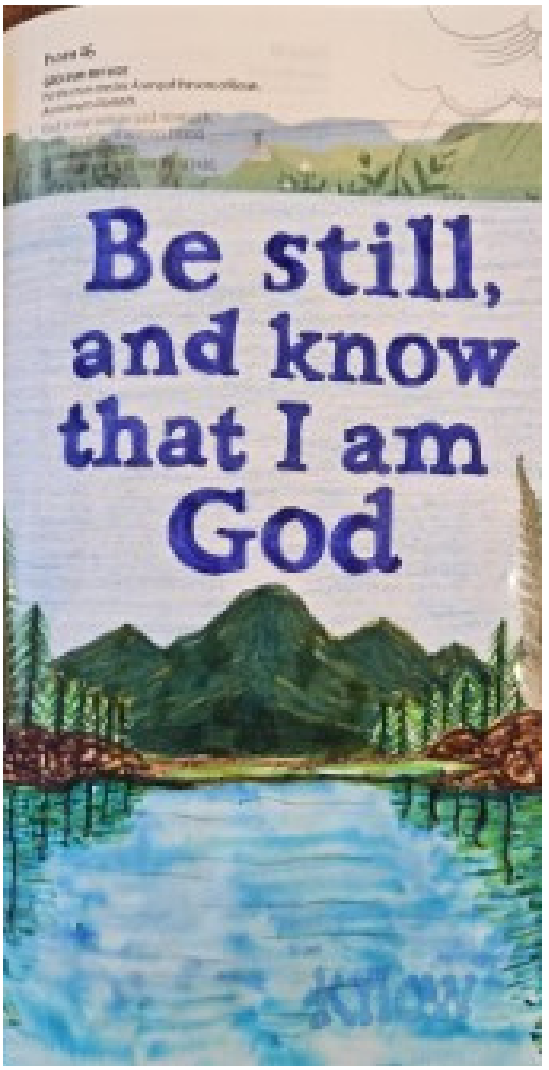




MOMENTS FROM THIS MONTH

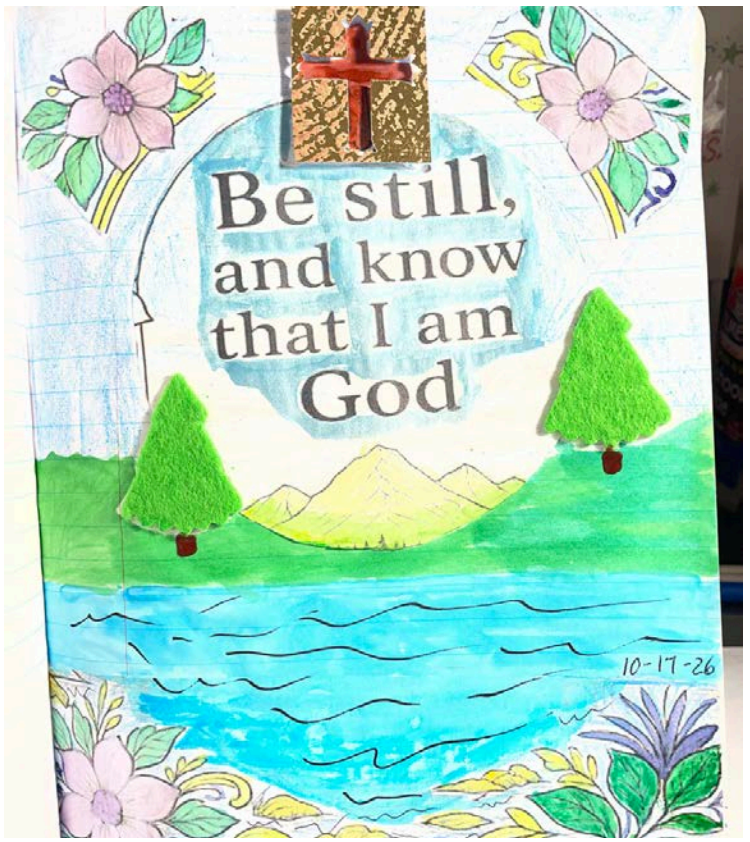
BIBLE JOURNALING THIS MONTH











MOMENTS FROM THIS MONTH

FALL FAMILY FESTIVAL

















MOMENTS FROM THIS MONTH

FALL FAMILY FESTIVAL





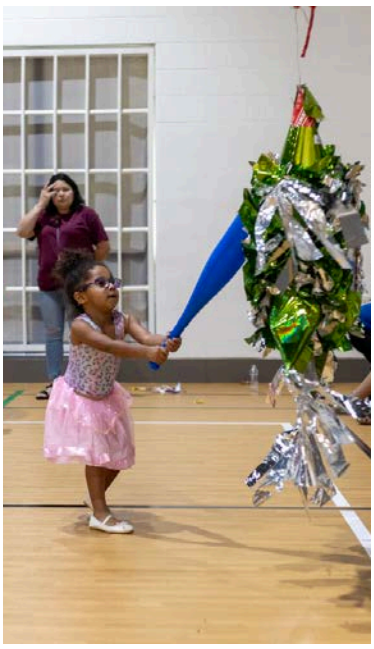


















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FALL FAMILY FESTIVAL























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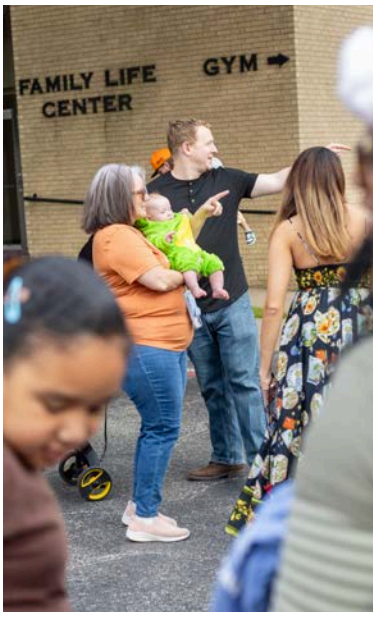


MOMENTS FROM THIS MONTH

FALL FAMILY FESTIVAL







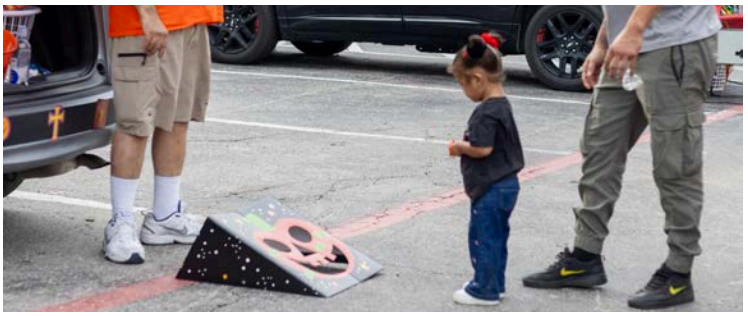




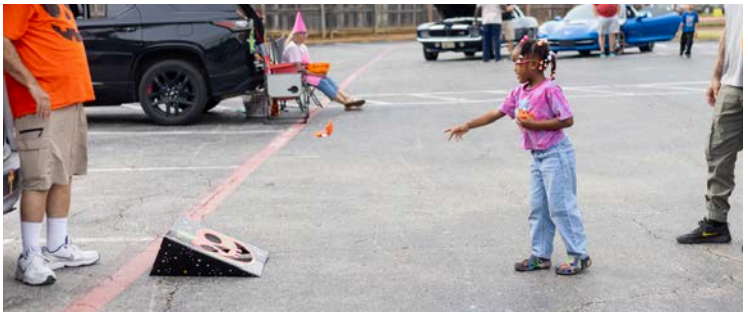












MOMENTS FROM THIS MONTH

FALL FAMILY FESTIVAL







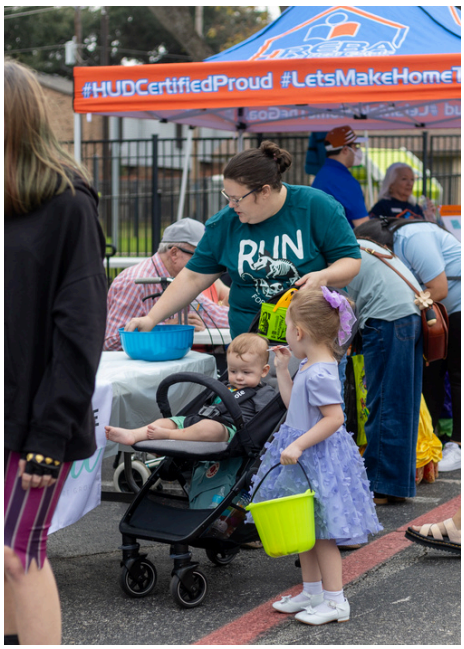
















NOVEMBER

View our church calendar at grace.lc/calendar or upcoming events, activities, and volunteer opportunities at grace.lc/events-activities

Special Dates

- *Daylight Savings Ends – November 1*
- *Recess Middle School Retreat – November 6-7*
- *Voters Meeting – November 8*
- *Veteran's Day – November 11*
- *Grace Seniors Gathering – November 12*
- *Sisters in Christ Ornament Exchange – November 14*
- *Young Adults Friendsgiving – November 20*
- *Family Serve Day – November 21*
- *Thanksgiving – November 26*
- *Feast of St. Andrew – November 30*

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- *Melinda Schmidt – November 2*
- *Sondra Schubert – November 3*
- *Nancy Masterson – November 3*
- *Luis Gutierrez – November 3*
- *James L. Hankins – November 4*
- *Chris Owens – November 5*
- *Jessica D. Nieves – November 6*
- *Luke T. Joeckel – November 6*
- *Matt Joeckel – November 6*
- *Deborah Hildebrandt – November 7*
- *Danny Helm – November 8*
- *Jennifer Tatrow – November 9*
- *Howard Stacy – November 9*
- *Rae Ann Wagoner – November 9*
- *John Biel – November 11*
- *Troy Baumann – November 12*
- *Daryl Seefeldt – November 14*
- *Paul Burgdorf – November 15*
- *Mary Wolter – November 17*
- *Lynn Smith – November 17*
- *Roberto G. Espitia Gomez – November 17*
- *Alex Stacy – November 17*
- *Will Land – November 18*
- *Linda Rawe – November 19*
- *Dawn Stacy – November 19*
- *Dave Voss – November 19*
- *Ryan W. Baumann – November 19*
- *Darla Creel – November 20*
- *Nancy Mickelson – November 21*
- *Ashley O'Bryan – November 22*
- *Elizabeth Gutierrez – November 24*
- *Janet Middlebrooks – November 25*
- *Serena Pace – November 25*
- *Jim Braziel – November 26*
- *Donita Spawr – November 28*
- *Carol Hall – November 29*
- *Judy Horton – November 29*
- *Paul Tatrow – November 29*
- *Laura Smith – November 29*
- *Leonardo A. Salazar – November 30*

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- *Alan & Moira Meyer – November 5*
- *Steven & Alison Roth – November 6*
- *Brent & Ann Reynolds – November 15*
- *Brian & Casie Rukavina – November 16*
- *Hosny & Huda Gad – November 17*
- *John & Donita Spawr – November 17*
- *Tony & Cyndi Stricklin – November 28*







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