



8989 Woodlands Pkwy, The Woodlands TX. 77382 / Phone: 281-296-0911 / www.gracewoodlands.org

*.To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest;
to all who mourn and long for comfort;
to all who struggle and desire victory;
to all who sin and need a Savior;
to all who are strangers and want fellowship;
to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness;
and to all who will come,
this church opens wide her doors
and offers welcome
in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.*

Church Staff & Officers

David J. Wilcher

Lead Pastor

Kyle Bobos

Pastor of Children's Ministries

Todd Crusey

Pastor of Community Life

Grayson Baird

Director of Student Ministries

Elders

Dan Brink

Jon Green

Mike Hume

Mark Moore

Andy Yung

Deacons

Matt Bradshaw

Mike Bellin

Amy Bottorff

Justin Chandler

Jeff Cranford

Mark Hill

Scott Johnston

Steve Kovach

Rob McIntosh

Mike Ryan

Sunny Yung

Grace Church is affiliated with the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA).

Reflections

I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death.

— St. Paul
Philippians 3:10

Practice resurrection.

— Wendell Berry
Manifesto: The Mad Farmer Liberation Front

“I wished Christ hadn’t raised the dead. He’s shown everything off balance.”

— The Misfit
Flannery O'Connor
A Good Man Is Hard To Find

Grace Presbyterian Church

The Lord's Day

February 4, 2018

10:30 a.m.

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Preparation for Worship¹

_____ *Praise* _____

Call to Worship

Psalm 33:1-5, 21

Leader: Sing joyfully to the LORD, you righteous; It is fitting for the upright to praise him.

People: Praise the LORD with the harp; make music to him on the ten-stringed lyre.

Leader: Sing to him a new song; play skillfully, and shout for joy.

People: For the word of the LORD is right and true; he is faithful in all he does.

Leader: The LORD loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of his unfailing love.

ALL: In him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in his holy name.

¹ As a courtesy, please program all communication devices to silent mode. Thank you!

Song of Praise

Come People of the Risen King

Prayer of Adoration

Song of Adoration

Almighty God

Private Praise and Adoration

Renewal

Scripture Reading

Matthew 20:25-28

Jesus called them together and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. 26 Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, 27 and whoever wants to be first must be your slave— 28 just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

Confession of Sin

*Leader &
People:*

Loving heavenly Father, forgive us for our selfish desire to have others serve us, and for our love of power and influence. You call us to be servants who lovingly pour out our lives for those around us. Lord, our hearts are deceitful, desperate, wicked, proud, and relentlessly self-focused. When we do honor, care for, and serve others, we secretly hope that people are watching and noticing so that our humility and competency will be applauded and praised. Our best acts of love toward others are often directed toward ourselves, as we use them to impress you, others, and ourselves. Forgive us our deep brokenness. Fill us with love for Christ and a desire to serve others as we have been served by Him. May His resurrection rule our hearts, minds, thoughts, and actions. May Jesus increase, and we decrease so that we may see it as a privilege to participate in planting flags of the resurrection everywhere we go and with everyone we encounter. Transform us by your Spirit.

Private Confession and Reflection

Words of Encouragement

Philippians 2:8-11

And being found in appearance as a man,
he humbled himself
by becoming obedient to death—
even death on a cross!
9 Therefore God exalted him to the highest place
and gave him the name that is above every name,
10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
11 and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Song of Thanksgiving

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

The Peace of God and Announcements

Minister: The peace of the Lord be with you!

People: And also with you.

*If parents prefer, children 4 years old – 2nd grade
are invited to attend Children's Church in the Education Building at this time.*

The Prayers of the People (concluded with the Lord's prayer)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory for ever. Amen!

_____ *Commitment* _____

The Offering

The offering is a way for members and friends of Grace Church to support the church's mission and ministry. If you are our guest today, please feel under no compulsion to give.

Scripture Reading

2 Kings 5:1-27

Now Naaman was commander of the army of the king of Aram. He was a great man in the sight of his master and highly regarded, because through him the Lord had given victory to Aram. He was a valiant soldier, but he had leprosy.

2 Now bands of raiders from Aram had gone out and had taken captive a young girl from Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. 3 She said to her mistress, "If only my master would see the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy."

4 Naaman went to his master and told him what the girl from Israel had said. 5 "By all means, go," the king of Aram replied. "I will send a letter to the king of Israel." So Naaman left, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold and ten sets of clothing. 6 The letter that he took to the king of Israel read: "With this letter I am sending my servant Naaman to you so that you may cure him of his leprosy."

7 As soon as the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his robes and said, "Am I God? Can I kill and bring back to life? Why does this fellow send someone to me to be cured of his leprosy? See how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me!"

8 When Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his robes, he sent him this message: "Why have you torn your robes? Have the man come to me and he will know that there is a prophet in Israel." 9 So Naaman went with his horses and chariots and stopped at the door of Elisha's house. 10 Elisha sent a messenger to say to him, "Go, wash yourself seven times in the Jordan, and your flesh will be restored and you will be cleansed."

11 But Naaman went away angry and said, "I thought that he would surely come out to me and stand and call on the name of the Lord his God, wave his hand over the spot and cure me of my leprosy. 12 Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Couldn't I wash in them and be cleansed?" So he turned and went off in a rage.

13 Naaman's servants went to him and said, "My father, if the prophet had told you to do some great thing, would you not have done it? How much more, then, when he tells you, 'Wash and be cleansed'!" 14 So he went down and dipped himself in the Jordan seven times, as the man of God had told him, and his flesh was restored and became clean like that of a young boy.

15 Then Naaman and all his attendants went back to the man of God. He stood before him and said, "Now I know that there is no God in all the world except in Israel. So please accept a gift from your servant."

16 The prophet answered, "As surely as the Lord lives, whom I serve, I will not accept a thing." And even though Naaman urged him, he refused.

17 "If you will not," said Naaman, "please let me, your servant, be given as much earth as a pair of mules can carry, for your servant will never again make burnt offerings and sacrifices to any other god but the Lord. 18 But may the Lord forgive your servant for this one thing: When my master enters the temple of Rimmon to bow down and he is leaning on my arm and I have to bow there also—when I bow down in the temple of Rimmon, may the Lord forgive your servant for this."

19 "Go in peace," Elisha said.

After Naaman had traveled some distance, 20 Gehazi, the servant of Elisha the man of God, said to himself, "My master was too easy on Naaman, this Aramean, by not accepting from him what he brought. As surely as the Lord lives, I will run after him and get something from him."

21 So Gehazi hurried after Naaman. When Naaman saw him running toward him, he got down from the chariot to meet him. "Is everything all right?" he asked.

22 "Everything is all right," Gehazi answered. "My master sent me to say, 'Two young men from the company of the prophets have just come to me from the hill country of Ephraim. Please give them a talent of silver and two sets of clothing.'"

23 "By all means, take two talents," said Naaman. He urged Gehazi to accept them, and then tied up the two talents of silver in two bags, with two sets of clothing. He gave them to two of his servants, and they carried them ahead of Gehazi. 24 When Gehazi came to the hill, he took the things from the servants and put them away in the house. He sent the men away and they left.

25 When he went in and stood before his master, Elisha asked him, "Where have you been, Gehazi?"

"Your servant didn't go anywhere," Gehazi answered.

26 But Elisha said to him, "Was not my spirit with you when the man got down from his chariot to meet you? Is this the time to take money or to accept clothes—or olive groves and vineyards, or flocks and herds, or male and female slaves? 27 Naaman's leprosy will cling to you and to your descendants forever." Then Gehazi went from Elisha's presence and his skin was leprous—it had become as white as snow.

Sermon

Mr. Paul Hahn

SERVANTS OF RESURRECTION THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO THE PROPHETS

COMMUNION

Guidelines for Reception of Communion

Communion is a family meal for Christians. We welcome all committed followers of Jesus Christ to partake of this sacrament: those who are baptized members of a congregation which proclaims the gospel, who are at peace with God and with their neighbor, and who seek strength to live more faithfully for Christ. If you are not a Christian, or if you are not prepared to share in this meal, we encourage you to spend this time in prayer using the prayers that follow as guidelines. We hope that this time is helpful as you consider your relationship with Jesus Christ, and with his people, the church.

The Great Thanksgiving

Minister: Therefore, lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord!

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise!

Song of Communion

How Deep the Father's Love

Prayer of Consecration and the Words of Institution

Prayer for those not communing:

Prayer for Covenant Children (Not Yet Confirmed)

Lord Jesus, thank you for placing me inside your family, the church. Help me more and more to know you, to love you, and to follow you as your faithful disciple. Amen.

Prayer for Those Searching for Truth

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth and the life. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you, as I consider the reasons for doing so. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

Prayer of Belief

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but, through you, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared to hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior. Amen.

Prayer for Those Struggling with Sin

Lord Jesus, grant that I may see in you the fulfillment of all my needs, and may turn from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely, and run with perseverance the race set before me, looking only to you, the author and finisher of my faith. Amen.

Prayer of Commitment

Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship in your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with your people, and live in the fullness of your Spirit. Amen.

Distribution of the Bread and the Cup

Grace Presbyterian uses wine in the celebration of Holy Communion. If you prefer non-alcoholic grape juice, please take a cup from the outer circle of the tray. Please hold the elements until all have received so we can celebrate this meal together.

Song of Commitment

And Can It Be

Benediction²

written by Roddy Hamilton

When it takes hold, resurrection doesn't let go,
it shakes the dead awake,
it shakes the darkness from the light,
it shakes the silence from our throats
and it wrestles death from all that is dying
Let us go out into the world
and in the upheaval of resurrection
seek out the life

Dismissal

Minister: Now, let us go forth to serve this community and the world as those who love our Lord Jesus Christ.

ALL: Thanks be to God!

The pastoral staff and other church leaders are available following the service to pray with you or to answer your questions about the Christian faith or Grace Church.

Worship Music³

Thank you for sharing your gifts and talents with Grace Presbyterian Church.

Brent Allmon, saxophone
T.J. Darst, bass
David Fox, keyboard
Damon Henrichs, guitar

David Kang, violin
Debra Moses, flute
Rae Moses, piano
Jennifer Reddick, flute

² The benediction is much more than a wish or even a prayer. It is a renewed ordination of the people of God to their service to each other, to their community and the world. God declares his own favor toward his people.

³ All songs except hymns are copied under CCL # 1214497. The hymns are reprinted from *Trinity Hymnal* (© 1990, Great Commission Publications). Used by permission. All Scripture is quoted from, unless otherwise indicated, the *THE HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION*®, NIV® Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission

Sermon Notes

2 Kings 5:1-27

SERVANTS OF RESURRECTION

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO THE PROPHETS

Welcome, Guests! We are excited you're here with us today. We hope that you were warmly welcomed and would love for you to be a part of Grace. Please take a moment to fill out the visitor information on the back of the bulletin, tear it off and drop it in the offering plate or give it on to an usher.

Parents of Infants - Three-Yr-Olds: Our nursery and early-childhood classes provide a warm, nurturing, and well-supervised environment. Our workers welcome the opportunity to love your child! When using the nursery, please check in and label all items (bags, cups, etc.) with your child's name. If you need assistance or have any questions about the Nursery, please contact our Nursery Coordinator, Kate Weimar, at nursery@gracewoodlands.org.

Cry Room: A cry room is available for the comfort of our new parents in order to ensure that everyone enjoys our services. It is located in the back of the sanctuary and it is well equipped (comfortable rockers, changing table, etc.) but if you are in need of anything, one of our ushers will be glad to assist.

Sunday Mornings at Grace

8:30 am Prayer

9:30 am Christian Education Classes

10:15 am Coffee Break

10:30 am Worship

11:45 am Intercession

Sunday Morning Prayer Ministry: To clasp hands in prayer is the beginning of an uprising against the disorder of the world. We would like to invite you to be a part of this uprising at 8:30 each Sunday morning in the Prayer Room (114). Join us as we pray for the expansion of God's Kingdom.

Join us for a Congregational Meeting immediately following the worship service on February 11th. The congregational meeting will be held to present and discuss the 2018 budget. Please remain for this important meeting.

Adult Sunday Morning Classes: Grace offers adult classes at 9:30 am so we can come together to learn more about the Christian faith, find encouragement to grow in character and wisdom, and grow more equipped to engage our neighbors, those nearby and those across the world, with the gospel of grace. We invite you to join in on this opportunity for fellowship, discussion and teaching.

• **Foundations of Christian Doctrine**

Anthony Bocciardi

We live what we believe. But how well do our most cherished convictions compare with the foundational tenets of Christianity that form our compass? Anthony invites us to grow in being the fragrant aroma of Christ, so that we and our neighbors can envision a different, better kingdom even as we struggle to live out our faith in our present-day culture.

• **Gospel Mercy**

Damon Webster

Jesus issues a steep command to all his followers: "Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful." What does this mean for the heart that cries out? How are we to reflect mercy into the world? Damon invites us to consider how a deeper grasp of God's mercy transforms suffering into freedom.

• **Intro to Grace Presbyterian**

David Wilcher

Whether you are on the fast track toward membership or walking the path toward learning more about us, this introductory class about Grace Presbyterian Church is for you! This is a great chance to better understand the mission and ministry of this church, as well as to interrogate the pastor with any questions you might have.

Community Groups: To be part of the church is to be part of a community. Community is where we connect, build relationships, study, and serve together. Groups consist of 8-15 people meeting regularly in homes, restaurants, coffee shops, etc. Most groups meet on Sunday nights, but other times are also available. *A full list and descriptions of our current groups is available in the Narthex. Two groups meet*

immediately after the service. If you'd like to learn more community life at Grace, please contact Todd Crusey at todd@gracewoodlands.org.

Children's Christian Education classes are offered for Preschoolers (2-3yrs old), Pre-K and Kindergarten, 1st-2nd Grade, 3rd-4th Grade, and 5th-6th Grade. Classes meet in the Education Building at 9:30 am 2nd Grade and under are on the 1st floor, 3rd Grade and above meet on the 2nd floor.

- **Children's Church** is offered for children ages 4 years old through 2nd grade. During passing of the peace, the children line up with their leader in the back of the sanctuary to exit worship. During the song of communion, children will rejoin their families to observe communion with the rest of the church body. We gather in room 108 in the Education Building to sing songs, pray, and hear a children's sermon. We also collect a children's offering during the service. This format is designed to model worship for our children and teach them the importance of meeting together as the body of Christ.
- **SNiCK and 56ers** All children, 8 weeks through 6th Grade, are invited to join us on Sunday nights from 5-7 pm. We eat and laugh and play during our time together. The goal is to have fun at SNiCK through friendship and fellowship. Invite your friends and neighbors! **Tonight there is NO SNiCK/56ers** due to the Super Bowl! Enjoy your time with you family and friends!
- **56er Game Night:** On February 16th, from 6:00 - 8:00 pm, we will be having a 56er game night at Grace. We will have Chic-Fil-A for dinner and a raucous good time! Invite your friends!
- **VBS** will be June 4th-8th. Mark your calendars! Registration will begin in March. See Kyle if you are interested in volunteering.
- **PlayGroup** is an active gathering of moms and dads making space for fun, friendship, and adventure for our young children. We meet on the 2nd & 4th Friday of the month. To get involved, contact Deborah Kovach or Natalie Webster. Since locations and times can change, please join the PlayGroup in E-Connect for updates. Feb 9th- Valentine's Party at Natalie Webster's House, Feb 23rd- The Woodlands Children's Museum.

Student Ministry:

- **Christian Education:** On Sunday mornings from 9:30-10:15, we gather to know more deeply about our Lord and Savior and who we are in Christ. Join us on Sunday mornings in Room 206.
- **SNF (Sunday Night Fellowship)** On Sunday evenings we gather to eat, fellowship, and to see the person and work of Jesus more clearly in our lives together. Jr. High meets from 5-7 pm and Sr. High meets 7-8:30 pm. Relationships are at the heart of what it means to be made in the image of God. Join us this semester as we discuss all the different relationships we have in our lives and what it means to usher the love of Christ into all of these places.
- **Tutoring at Tamina:** Come and serve at the Tamina Community Center from 3:45-5:00 pm on Tuesdays to tutor, play with, and love on a great group of kids.
- **Save The Dates:**
 - **Ranchopalooza-** March 2nd-4th, 2018. This is a weekend retreat for high school students to unplug and retreat from our busy schedules to be present with God and one another. The retreat speaker is Dagan Mayfield, RUF Campus Minister at Texas Tech. The cost for the trip is \$125 for the weekend. Please RSVP by February 18th.
 - **RYM Camps:** Junior High camp: June 4th-8th, 2017 in Hawkins, Texas. High School: June 11th-16th, 2018 in Estes Park, CO.

Men's Fraternal:

- **Brew Night:** Our next monthly men's gathering is set for Tuesday, February 20th. Join us at Stadia Sports Grill (89595 Six Pines Dr #1110, The Woodlands) for dinner and fellowship starting at 6:30 pm.
- **Men's Discipleship Breakfast:** Our twice monthly men's breakfast meets next at 6:30 am on Tuesday, February 13th at the Egg & I on Research Forest. A breakfast buffet is available at \$10 per person. Steve Wilmoth is teaching a study on the Person and Work of Jesus.

Women's Ministry Events and More! Please join the Women's Ministry on E-Connect to get involved.

- **Women's Bible Study:** Join us this Semester as we continue our studies on the Life and Ministry of Jesus! The Thursday morning group meets from 9:30-11am in the youth room and will be going through Tim Keller's study on The Gospel of Mark. The fee for material is \$5. Childcare will be provided. The Wednesday evening group meets from 7:00-8:30 pm also upstairs, and they will be going through Elyse Fitzpatrick's book entitled *Found in Him*. You will need to purchase the book on your own for the evening study. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Pam McDaniel or Kristen Chandler.
- **Girls' Night Out:** Join us at the Black Walnut Cafe (9000 New Trails), Thursday, February 1st we'll meet at 6:30 pm. Come and go as you like! Questions, contact Courtney Lott.

GraceCares:

- **ESL:** GraceCares is starting an ESL ministry in order to reach out to our friends and neighbors who are non-native english speakers. If you'd like to learn more, you can join the ESL Ministry Group in the church database. Training for ESL teachers will be held February 23rd and 24th.
- **Autumn Grove:** Just a few minutes drive from Grace, Autumn Grove Cottage, a sixteen resident assisted living home, provides care to men and women with Alzheimer's. A small group from Grace visits roughly once a month for about 30 minutes or so to sing, pray and visit with the residents. Our next visit will be on Feb 11th. We would love to have you join us. Contact Laurel Stevens or Dan Brink for more information.
- **Meals Ministry:** There are events in life when we all need the help and encouragement of our community. The Meals Ministry seeks to enter into these times by providing meals. If you are in need of meals, or would like to help provide meals for others, please contact our Meals Coordinator, Rhonnie Bellin.
- **Serve and Care for Grace Church members and congregation.** If you would like to know the best way to support and help those who might have financial or physical needs in our church and community, we would encourage you to consider giving to the Deacon's Fund. It is through the deacons and their ministry that Grace church provides for, supports and comes alongside those who are in need. If you have questions, please contact Matt Bradshaw.
- **Prayer Ministry:** Our desire at Grace is that we take seriously the privilege of prayer and there are several ways you can participate. If you become aware of a prayer need, please communicate this to us in one of the following ways:
 - In writing: Fill out the back page of the bulletin and place it in the offering plate.
 - By phone: 281-296-0911 (Church Office)

Your requests will be communicated to our Church Staff, Officers, and our Prayer Team. If you would like to be on our Prayer Team, please let us know.

Missions Service Opportunities & Events: Contact John Zeigler for more information or to be added to our GraceMissions email list or to connect with a missions team advocate.

- The following are the Missions Partners that the Missions Ministry team will highlight during the month of February.
 - Rev. Blake & Mrs. Ryan Arnoult, RUF at University of Houston
 - Rev. Joe & Mrs. Felicity Congdon, MTW, Yokkaichi, Japan
- Short Term Mission Opportunities-Looking to expand your worldview? Consider one the following missions trips MTW has coming up. Contact Wendy Dempsey for more info.
 - Prayer walking in Marseille March 10th-17th, 2018
 - Vision Trip to London April 14th-21st, 2018

Local Mission Partners

Tamina Community Center | Conroe, TX

Montgomery County Women's Center | Montgomery County, TX

Cornerstone Recovery | The Woodlands, TX

Interfaith Family Services | The Woodlands, TX

Pregnancy Assistance Center North | The Woodlands, TX

Redeemed Ministries | The Woodlands, TX

Three Local Refugee Pastors: Pastor Thong Lun & Pastor Mang Tiak -Greater Houston Burmese

Christian Fellowship, Pastor Bhadra Rai & wife, Ruth -Canaan Bhutanese Church of Houston, Pastor
 “Andre” Onokoko Shang -International Ministries for the Propagation of the Gospel | Houston, TX
 Blake & Ryan Arnoult | RUF | University of Houston
 Juan Carlos & Samara Martínez | RUF | Rice University
 Open position | RUF | Texas A&M University
 Dennis & Jane Hermerding | King’s Cross Church | Cypress, TX
 Leo & Ellen Schuster | City Church | Houston, TX
 Bill Thomas | PCA Southwest Church Planting Network | Dallas, TX
 Oaklawn Presbyterian Church | Houston, TX
 Grace Presbyterian Diaconate

• **National Mission Partners**

Way & Amy Rutherford | RUF | Baylor University
 John & Chrissy Trapp | RUF | University of Texas
 Ryan & Laura Anderson | RUF | Texas Christian University
 Wil & Mary Nettleton | RUF | Trinity University
 Nathan & Falon Moretto | New City Presbyterian Church | Royal Oak, MI
 David & Kelly Richter | Christ the King Presbyterian Church | Somerville, MA
 Francis A. Schaeffer Institute | Covenant Theological Seminary | Saint Louis, MO
 Reformed University Fellowship (RUF) | Atlanta, GA
 Curtis & Marian Castleberry | RUF | University of Texas at San Antonio

• **International Mission Partners**

Jason & Sarah Pickard | RUF International | Texas A&M University
 Open position | RUF International | University of Texas
 Joe & Felicity Congdon | MTW | Toyosu, Tokyo, Japan
 Charlie & Bonita Davidson | MTW | Monterrey, Mexico
 Andy & Missy Shadburne | MTW | Fremantle, Perth, Australia
 David & Eowyn Stoddard | MTW | Berlin, Germany
 Arab Baptist Theological Seminary | Beirut, Lebanon
 Kay Burklin | MTW | Refugee Liaison, Europe
 Mission to The World (MTW) | Atlanta, GA

Stewardship Update: Grace thanks you so much for your generous gifts and offerings to our Savior for 2017.

	<u>2017</u>
2017 General Fund Budget	817,800
Actual General Fund Receipts	860,318
Variance	42,518

During 2017, because of the ebb and flow of cash flow, Grace borrowed \$15,000 from a credit line at a local bank. Because of your year-end generosity, this loan is being paid off with the bounty of year-end giving.

Find & Interact with Members and Online Giving:

- **Grace Online Giving Portal.** If you would like to give online, you will need to setup an account. The link can be found on our website under the Care/Give tab.
- **Grace Online Directory:** The link for member login can be found on the church website under the Connect tab. In addition to accessing the church directory, you can join groups and review your giving history. If you did not receive login instructions or would like to be added to the church directory, contact Dianna in the office at admin@gracewoodlands.org or 281-296-0911.
- **Grace Church Mobile App (Elexio Community by Elexio)** is available for iPhone and Android and can be found by clicking the Apple App Store and Google Play icons on the church website. In addition to giving users access to the church directory and events, the mobile app also offers a mobile check-in

option for the Nursery. To log on, replace "Domain" with gracewoodlands and use your directory username and password for the app.

Banners Explained: In Christian tradition, green came to symbolize the life of the church following Pentecost, as well as symbolizing the hope of new life in the resurrection. This color indicates ordinary time, which is the time between the major Christian Seasons.

The Banner on right symbolizes the Trinity, the belief that God is three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit and yet, one God. No part of the Trinity is ever out of alignment (moving independently) from the other parts of the Trinity. The circle represents eternity. The circle is frequently seen with the Trinitarian symbol, representing the eternal qualities of each part of the Godhead.

On the left, the circle of the Celtic Cross is a symbol of eternity as well but emphasizing the endlessness of God's love as shown through Christ's sacrifice on the cross. The IHS in the center is the abbreviated name of Jesus in the greek and is a very old symbol, dating back to the first century. Each panels focuses on a central aspect of His work. The cross is framed with grapes, a symbol of our Lord's blood shed on the cross for us.

Missed a Recent Sunday Worship? MP3s of Sunday morning messages are available on the website at www.gracewoodlands.org under Media. You can listen online, download them or subscribe to the Podcast. If you need help or are having trouble, please contact the church office⁴.

⁴ Office Hours 8:30 am-3pm M - F Phone: 281.296.0911
Email: admin@gracewoodlands.org Website: www.gracewoodlands.org

We are glad to have you as our guest today. Please use this page to let us know of your visit and to make us aware of any ideas, suggestions or concerns you may have. You may deposit this page in the offering plate as it comes by, or give it to an usher or greeter. Have confidence that no one will call or drop by your home; this is for us to have a record of your visit or your prayer requests.

Name & Email: _____

Spouse & Email: _____

Home Address: _____

Cell Phone #: _____

Home Phone #: _____

Children & Grade: _____

Please let us know if you are:

☐ Visitor ☐ Regular Attendee ☐ One time visit from out of town

I am interested in learning about:

☐ Community Groups ☐ Music ☐ Usher, Greeter ☐ Sunday Volunteer
☐ Children's Ministry ☐ Women's Ministry ☐ Student Ministry ☐ Men's Ministry

Prayer Request:

☐ I would like the prayer team to pray for the following needs or concerns:

I would like to speak with someone about this prayer request or other spiritual concern; please have someone contact me at: _____.

Prayer of Belief...

*Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am weaker and more
sinful than I ever before believed, but through you, I am
more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope.*

*I thank you for paying my debt on the cross, bearing my
punishment and offering forgiveness.*

*Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn
from my sins and receive you as Savior and Lord. Amen.*