



P R E S B Y T E R I A N
G R A C E

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
Children's Ministries

Elders
*Dan Brink
Jon Green
Mark Moore
Andy Yung*

Deacons
*Matt Bradshaw
Mike Bellin
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

Saving faith is not believing that God is there. Further, it is not believing in a God who saves. It is believing God when he promises a way of salvation by grace.

– Timothy Keller
Romans 1-7 For You

It was the message of Jesus Christ, who in the Sermon on the Mount made the standard of the law so crushing that any honest person would have to despair and look for another pathway to righteousness. Christ's laws were always given for one reason only: to make us despair of ever doing them and forcing us to transfer our trust from ourselves to God, believing that he is as good as his word.

– Elyse M. Fitzpatrick
Comforts from Romans: Celebrating the Gospel One Day at a Time

The life Jesus lived, he lived in our place. This is the life with which we are credited by our Heavenly Father when we put our hope in Jesus. This is the life that does not discourage us or threaten us in any way, for his life has been accounted to us....when I read the story of the life and words of Christ, I am reading my own story, the story of my life as the Father sees me, the story of my life as I am accepted in and clothed by the life of the beloved Son.

– Jerram Barrs
Delighting in the Law of the Lord

...my performance does not affect Christ's love for me. While God is not pleased with my sin and may discipline me in order to turn me from destructive paths and practices, his love for me does not diminish in any degree. He gave himself for my sins in their entirety, so that I might have his love in its entirety.

– Bryan Chapell
Holiness by Grace

Grace Presbyterian Church

The Lord's Day

October 21, 2018

10:30 a.m.

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Preparation for Worship¹

_____ *Praise* _____

Call to Worship

Psalm 66:1-4

Shout for joy to God, all the earth!
Sing the glory of his name;
make his praise glorious.
Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds!
So great is your power
that your enemies cringe before you.
All the earth bows down to you;
they sing praise to you,
they sing the praises of your name."

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

Song of Praise

O Worship the King

Prayer of Adoration

Song of Adoration

Be Thou My Vision

Private Praise and Adoration

Renewal

Scripture Reading

Titus 3:3-7

At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another. 4 But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, 5 he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, 6 whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, 7 so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.

Confession of Sin

*Minister &
People:*

Holy and Gracious Father, you love us with better love than any we could ever know here on earth. Though we have tasted your goodness, we are a people who would rather trust in ourselves. We place our hope in our own talents and abilities, in relationships with people we admire and love, in our success and good health, in our status and abilities. We even place our hope in spiritual disciplines, thinking we will merit more favor from you if we deny ourselves, pray constantly, or sacrifice for you and for others. We are worshipers of ourselves, and we find our hearts full of anxiety, fear, uncertainty, insecurity, and depression when we discover that we cannot save ourselves.

Teach us to be still and know that you are God and we are not. Take the blinders off our eyes that we may see the depths of our sin and turn to You in repentance, hope, and faith. Ravish us with the truth of your gospel. Help us to see the unstoppable love of our Savior who was stricken for our sin and who died for us and made us yours, not because of our goodness, but because of your mercy. Transform our hearts, our families, our communities, and our church through your grace and gospel.

Private Confession and Reflection

Words of Encouragement

Psalm 32:1-2

Blessed is the one
whose transgressions are forgiven,
whose sins are covered.
Blessed is the one
whose sin the Lord does not count against them
and in whose spirit is no deceit.

Song of Thanksgiving

Before the Throne

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

Romans 4:1-26

What then shall we say that Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh, discovered in this matter? 2 If, in fact, Abraham was justified by works, he had something to boast about—but not before God. 3 What does Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.”

4 Now to the one who works, wages are not credited as a gift but as an obligation. 5 However, to the one who does not work but trusts God who justifies the ungodly, their faith is credited as righteousness. 6 David says the same thing when he speaks of the blessedness of the one to whom God credits righteousness apart from works:

7 “Blessed are those
whose transgressions are forgiven,
whose sins are covered.

8 Blessed is the one
whose sin the Lord will never count against them.”

9 Is this blessedness only for the circumcised, or also for the uncircumcised? We have been saying that Abraham’s faith was credited to him as righteousness. 10 Under what circumstances was it credited? Was it after he was circumcised, or before? It was not after, but before! 11 And he received circumcision as a sign, a seal of the righteousness that he had by faith while he was still uncircumcised. So then, he is the father of all who believe but have not been circumcised, in order that righteousness might be credited to them. 12 And he is then also the father of the circumcised who not only are circumcised but who also follow in the footsteps of the faith that our father Abraham had before he was circumcised.

13 It was not through the law that Abraham and his offspring received the promise that he would be heir of the world, but through the righteousness that comes by faith. 14 For if those who depend on the law are heirs, faith means nothing and the promise is worthless, 15 because the law brings wrath. And where there is no law there is no transgression.

16 Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may be by grace and may be guaranteed to all Abraham’s offspring—not only to those who are of the law but also to those who have the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all. 17 As it is written: “I have made you a father of many nations.” He is our father in the sight of God, in whom he believed—the God who gives life to the dead and calls into being things that were not.

18 Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him, “So shall your offspring be.” 19 Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead—since he was about a hundred years old—and that Sarah’s womb was also dead. 20 Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, 21 being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised. 22 This is why “it was credited to him as righteousness.” 23 The words “it was credited to him” were written not for him alone, 24 but also for us, to whom God will credit righteousness—for us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead. 25 He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification.

THE MARK OF GOD'S FAMILY
THE LETTER TO THE ROMANS

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

Come Weary Souls

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. Gluten-free wafers are provided in cups in the center of the cup trays. Please hold the elements until all have received so we can celebrate this meal together.

Song of Commitment

O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

Benediction²

Psalm 67:1-2

May God be gracious to us and bless us
and make his face shine on us –
so that your ways may be known on earth,
your salvation among all nations.

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.

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.

Worship Music³

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

Brent Allmon, saxophone
David Fox, keyboard
Damon Henrichs, guitar
David Kang, violin

Debra Moses, flute
Rae Moses, piano
Jennifer Reddick, flute

Sermon Notes

Romans 4:1-26

THE MARK OF GOD'S FAMILY

THE LETTER TO THE ROMANS

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

_____ *Community Group Questions* _____

1. Do we give lip service to being justified by faith, but our lives show that we think we are justified by works? Give examples of how/when this is true for you.

2. Why should God let you into his family, into relationship with Him, ultimately into heaven? What would you say? Discuss.

3. Why does Paul employ Abraham and David to argue for justification by faith? What is significant about the timing of Abraham receiving righteousness, the instruction of circumcision, and the giving of the law in regards to how God has always operated?

4. What is your posture towards the “ungodly”? Does God have that same posture towards you? How should God’s grace towards us and the world shape the way we interact and engage the ungodly?

5. What is the purpose of the law? Why does it bring wrath and not life/righteousness?

6. Do you believe in a God who gives life to the dead and calls into being things that were not? What would your relationships, your demeanor, your thought life, your parenting, your work, your marriage, look like if you (daily) believed that this is the God that reigns and loves you?

7. Do you have a hope that goes beyond all human hope? What does this mean? How is that kind of hope of particular encouragement to you today?

8. How can Paul say that Abraham’s faith did not weaken and he did not waver through unbelief knowing Abraham’s repeated failures in Gen 16-20? What does that mean for your life?

9. How would you define faith after reading Romans 4? Why is it not enough to believe *in* God? What is significant about “being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he promised”? What did God promise Abraham? How was that promise fulfilled? What has God promised us?

Grace Presbyterian Bulletin Board

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 mothersdayout@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.

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 consisting of 8-15 people meet regularly on Sundays and throughout the week. If you are interested in joining a group or need more information, please email the church office at admin@gracewoodlands.org.

Advent Choir: Singers are invited to gather to rehearse special music for the Advent season. Anyone who would like to sing please join us! Music reading helpful but not necessary. We meet in room 108 at 9 am on Sunday mornings. For further information contact Debra Moses.

Adult Christian Education: Join us next week for our Sunday Morning series of classes. If you missed last week, there will be a brief review at the beginning of class.

• **Worldview & Culture**

Rob Bittick

For Grace Presbyterian to be a gospel-centered church, are we to avoid or embrace our culture? Join us as we explore four ways that churches throughout history have approached the challenge, informed by various prophetic views, and then weigh these approaches in the light of scripture. Our goal is to envision how the Church can engage surrounding culture with the hope of the gospel.

• **Lord, I Can't Do This Alone** (A Study in Gospel & Community)

Andy Yung

In an individualistic society where vulnerability, trust, commitment and concern are scarce, why unite with people who are different from ourselves? Herein lies the mystery of the Community of Faith—God chooses to knit us together to advance His Kingdom on Earth. Come explore the Gospel and how "community" is integral to our discipleship and growth in Christ.

• **Intro to Grace Presbyterian**

David Wilcher

Whether you are on the fast track toward membership or the walking 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.

Join us weekly at 9:30 - upstairs in the Education Building.

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

- **Girls' Night Out:** Join us at the Black Walnut Café (9000 New Trails), Thursday, **Nov. 1st** we'll meet at 6:30 pm. Come and go as you like! Questions, contact Courtney Lott.
- **Women's Bible Study:** Join us for our series Living the Gift of God- Freedom in the Light of the Gospel. Wednesday Evening group will meet at PACN's Woodlands location on Wednesdays at 7 pm, Jan Johnston will be leading. Thursday Morning group will meet in room 206 from 9:30-11 am, Linda Martinez will be leading. Childcare will be available.
- **Rain Walks** is a grief support group for women who are dealing with the loss of a loved one, either recently or in the past. Please come to listen (and share if you like) as we discuss our journeys and ways to "walk" through our loss. Rain Walks meets the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 8:30 am at Black Walnut Cafe in The Woodlands. Our next meeting will be at Black Walnut Café on **Nov.21st**. Contact Sabrina Amell for more information.

Men's Fraternal: John Weimar is leading our Men's Ministry Team..

- **Men's Discipleship Breakfast Bible Study:** Our next meeting is **Oct. 23rd** at 6:30 am at the Egg and I. We will be continuing/finishing our study called, "Who Do You Say That I Am" which is focused upon the Person and Work of Jesus. For more information please contact Steve Wilmoth.
- **Brew Night:** Our next monthly men's gathering is set for **Thursday, Nov. 15th** for dinner and fellowship starting at 6:30 pm. Join us at Wings 'N More (16580 I-45 South) for dinner and fellowship starting at 6:30 pm.

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!
 - **SNiCK Pumpkin Decorating: TODAY**, we will be decorating pumpkins at SNiCK/56ers. Kids should bring a small to medium size pumpkin, wear some old clothes, and be ready to get messy!
 - **SNiCK or Treat Costume Party:** On Sunday, **Oct. 28th**, kids should come dressed up and ready to party! There will be games and prizes, and of course, SNiCK or Treat (Trunk or Treat)! For SNiCK or Treat, parents should plan to return to GPC and be set up in the parking lot by 6:30 pm. We are asking participating parents to decorate the trunks of their cars in festive Halloween style and stock up on candy and/or other goodies. Parents will line up their cars in the parking lot and costumed kids will come out to Trunk or Treat. SNiCK or Treat is a great time to invite your friends to come to SNiCK & 56ers. There will be a prize for the best decorated trunk!
- **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 Natalie Webster. Since locations and times can change, please join the PlayGroup in E-Connect for updates.
 - ***Oct 26th:** Halloween Party at the Webster's House
 - ***Nov. 9th:** The Houston Zoo

Student Ministry is designed for students 7th grade through 12th grade.

- **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 during the school year we gather to eat, fellowship, and to see the person and work of Jesus more clearly in our lives together.
 - **Sr. High SNF** meets at its new time 3:30-4:30 pm in room 205/206.

- **Jr. High SNF** meets from 5-7 pm in room 205/206.

GraceCares - Caring for the church and the community: If you are interested in helping with GraceCares and the needs of the church and the community, please contact Joe Tison.

- **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. 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.
- **Giving:** If you would like to know the best way to support those who might have 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.

- **October Prayer Partners:**
 - **Oaklawn Presbyterian Church, TX-** Pray for the search committee as they begin looking for a new pastor. Sanctuary renovations are underway, but additional funds and volunteers will be required to complete all the necessary work. Several members are in need of full-time employment.
 - **Rev. David & Kelly Richter,** Christ the King Presbyterian Church, Somerville, MA -Pray for their ongoing search for a new building where they can more effectively grow their congregation and minister to the community around them.
- **English as a Second Language:** Our ESL ministry seeks to serve and love our local community by offering free English language classes to adults. Attendance has been high, and new students continue to apply. Several regular volunteers are traveling during October, so additional one-time volunteers would be welcome to help with hospitality, childcare, and registration. Classes are 7-9 pm on Tuesday evenings. Contact Bailey Patel for more info at esl@gracewoodlands.org or just show up on Tuesday evening!

• **Local Mission Partners**

Tamina Community Center | Conroe, TX
 Pregnancy Assistance Center North | The Woodlands, TX
 Cornerstone of Houston Team Counseling | The Woodlands, TX
 Redeemed Ministries | The Woodlands, TX
 Interfaith Family Services | The Woodlands, TX
 Montgomery County Women's Center | Montgomery County, TX
 Juan Carlos & Samara Martínez | RUF | Rice University
 Brooks & Meredith Harwood | RUF | University of Houston
 William & Katherine Bondurant | RUF | Texas A&M University
 Oaklawn Presbyterian Church, Houston, TX
 Leo & Ellen Schuster | City Church | Houston, TX
 Pastors Thong Lun & Mang Tiak | Greater Houston Burmese Christian Fellowship | Houston, TX
 Pastor Bhadra Rai | Canaan Bhutanese Church of Houston | Houston, TX

Pastor "Andre" Onokoko Shang | International Ministries for the Propagation of the Gospel | TX
 Grace Presbyterian ESL Ministry
 Grace Presbyterian Diaconate

• **National Mission Partners**

Wil & Mary Nettleton | RUF | Trinity University
 Way & Amy Rutherford | RUF | Baylor University
 Ryan & Laura Anderson | RUF | Texas Christian University
 John & Chrissy Trapp | RUF | University of Texas
 Curtis & Marian Castleberry | RUF | University of Texas at San Antonio
 Robbie & Kelly Mills | New City Fellowship | Dallas, TX
 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
 PCA Southwest Church Planting Network | Dallas, TX

• **International Mission Partners**

Titus & Crystal Bagby | RUF International | Texas A&M University
 Terry & Mary Rose Dykstra | RUF International | University of Texas
 Charles & Bonita Davidson | MTW | Monterrey, Mexico
 Joe & Felicity Congdon | MTW | Yokkaichi, Japan
 Andy & Missy Shadburne | MTW | Fremantle, Perth, Australia
 David & Eowyn Stoddard | MTW | Berlin, Germany
 Kay Burklin | MTW | Refugee Liaison, Europe
 Arab Baptist Theological Seminary | Beirut, Lebanon

Banners Explained: The banner on the right is inscribed with the Latin phrase “Ego sum vitis vera” meaning “I am the true vine”, an expression Jesus used to describe himself in John 15:1. The grapevines that make up the cross symbolize abundance and fruitfulness; Jesus is the only way to a truly fruitful life. The “IHS” in the center of the cross is an ancient monogram for Jesus.

The banner on the left is inscribed with the Latin phrase “ In cruce salus” meaning “In the cross is salvation”. Passion flowers symbolize the suffering and death of Christ, and forming a circle in the center is a crown of thorns which Jesus wore on the cross. In the center are the Greek letters alpha and omega, the first and last letters of the alphabet. In Revelation 21:6, Jesus describes himself as the Alpha and the Omega – the Beginning and the End.

Grace Online gives users access to the church directory and event calendar. Users can also join groups, print giving statements and give online. If you need any online instructions contact Dianna in the office at 281-296-0911 or admin@gracewoodlands.org.

- **Website:** Grace Online directory link, gracewoodlands.org under the Connect tab.
- **Mobile App (Elexio Community):** can be found by clicking the Apple App Store and Google Play icons on the church website. To log on, replace "Domain" with gracewoodlands and use your directory username and password for the app.
- **Online Giving:** If you would like to give online, you will need to set up an account, the link is under the Care tab on our website.

Stewardship Update: Grace thanks you so much for your generous gifts and offerings to our Savior for September 2018.

| | <u>September</u> | <u>YTD</u> | |
|---------------------|------------------|------------|--------------------------------------|
| Projected Budget | 70,858 | 637,722 | |
| Actual General Fund | 52,652 | 581,759 | |
| Variance | (18,206) | (55,963) | *Based on a 2018 budget of \$850,300 |

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.

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.

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