

The Purpose of Grace Presbyterian Church

is to glorify God by equipping individuals and families with the Word of God so that by God's grace they will grow in their service and worship of God, cultivate a genuinely loving fellowship, and influence the world for Jesus Christ.

Sunday and Wednesday Worship Schedules:

Sunday

9:15 am Sunday School
Galatians

Biblical Economics

Inquirers' Class

10:30 am Morning Worship

The Perplexity and
Passion of Faith:
Habakkuk's Prophecy

6:00 pm Evening Worship

The Gospel of Mark:
The Suffering King Has
Come to Save

Wednesday

6:00 pm Adult Small Groups
Youth Group
Children's Catechism

The Session

Caleb Cangelosi
(Teaching Elder),
Brad Bleasdale,
Dennis Parker
(Clerk of Session),
Darryl Richards,
Robert Row (Director
of Family Ministries)
Quinton Bain (Elder
Emeritus)

The Diaconate

Todd Burks,
Chuck Craig,
*David Cunningham,
Jamey Farris,
Jason Morse (Treasurer),
John Rust (Chairman),
Michael Savage,
Wes Stevens
*Deacon for September

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Sunday School Policy

1. Age Requirements:

- Minimum Age to Start official SS class = 2 years old. (Children are to move into the Toddler SS class at the September move up date or at the parent's discretion).

- Junior SS Class ages include: 10-11 year olds (12 year olds must complete the 6th grade prior to moving into Jr. High SS the first Sunday in June.)

Moving out of Sr. High will occur upon graduation of High School or leaving for college.

2. Classes:

Toddler – 2-3 year olds
Preschool – 4-5 year olds
Younger Elementary – 6-7 year olds
Older Elementary – 8-9 year olds
Junior – 10-11 (thru completion of 6th grade)
Junior High – 7-8th grade
Sr. High – 9-12th grade

3. Times: **START: 9:15 END: 10:15**

4. **Move up date:** Children will normally move up in Sunday School the 1st Sunday in September (exceptions can be made with permission from Director of Family Ministry).

Robert Row, Director of Family Ministries

Move up date for 6th Graders into Jr. High – June 1 of each year.

5. **Curriculum:** Great Commission Publications (has been approved by Elders).

6. **Teachers:** All teachers must be members of Grace Presbyterian Church and approved by the Elders prior to teaching SS.

7. Nuts and Bolts:

- Parents will be responsible for picking their children up from SS in a timely fashion.

- All Children's SS classes (with the exception of Jr. and Sr. High) will meet in the cafeteria this week (9/6).

- **The Children's SS will have a 5 minute closing assembly where they will sing a song and recite a memory verse in preparation for Worship time.**

- Members of Grace Presbyterian Church - it is our responsibility to lead, guide, and shepherd our Covenant children. If you have questions or concerns about these policies please contact the church office.

Young & Happy Fellowship

Landon Vick

Acts 2:42-47 reads:

And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

Each time I read this passage I'm filled with questions, conviction, and encouragement. I try to reconcile the different parts of this passage to my own life, particularly the rich fellowship shared between these groups of believers. When I think of the fellowship I share with other believers, I usually get depressed and lament over how fragmented and happenstance the whole idea of fellowship and community is in my life. Boiling it down, I can see that the fault is my own, and my approach to communing with others in our own church body is not intentional.

I've shared these thoughts with others and found some common ground. With that in mind, I want to share some new opportunities within the Young and Happy demographic that will be taking shape this fall. As you may recall, folks that are

between the ages of 21 and 35 are young and happy and are the people that I encourage to participate in what is happening. For several years now we have gathered each month at El Tap for a laid-back, informal meal, peppered with great debate. Building on what is already in place, here are the changes:

1st Thursday of each month – Men's Fellowship – Men only gathering for fellowship, discussion, encouragement, and prayer

2nd Thursday of each month – El Tap – The same good ole Mexican food covered with good discussion

3rd Thursday of each month – Ladies' Fellowship – Ladies only gathering for fellowship, discussion, encouragement, and prayer

4th Thursday of each month – Family Fellowship – Bring the whole family for a potluck meal and good times

Please consider joining us over the next few months with as little or as much involvement as fits your schedule. I hope the motivation is clear, I want to know better the people I worship with, how I can pray for them, what ways they can be ministered to, how I can be known by others, and what their favorite dish is at El Tap. Through email and our church calendar, we'll be posting the times and locations for each month. Please share your thoughts with me or Ryan Steele, together we'll be coordinating and reaching out to you.

Thanks,

Landon Vick - 28 years old, young and happy.

Pastor's Corner

Caleb Cangelosi, Pastor

This coming Lord's Day we have the great privilege of sitting down to share a meal with our Savior and Bridegroom. The Lord's Supper was instituted by Jesus on the night in which He was betrayed. Have you ever wondered why Paul includes that last phrase, "on the night in which He was betrayed"? Part of the reason is that he wants to draw our attention to the incredible love of our Savior for us – just before He was about to enter His greatest suffering, at the hands of men and God, He was thinking about you and me. He knew that our faith would need propping up. He knew that we would doubt His love for us. He knew that we would falter and faint along the way. So He gave us this sign of His covenant faithfulness, a physical sign since we live (as He does forevermore) in a body.

We do at least three things as we eat and drink at the Lord's Supper: commemorate, commune, and anticipate. We **commemorate**: "Do this in remembrance of Me." This has reference to the past. We remember the once-for-all, unrepeatably event of our Lord's death. We show forth His death; we declare to all that the heart of the good news is a bloody cross. There He bore our sins in His body, and our sins were forgiven. There God's wrath was satiated, and He was reconciled to us. But it's not just that we remember that event – we remember our Lord Himself. We remember that He who possessed all glory and riches became poor and suffered for our sakes. He who knew no sin became sin for us so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. We remember that the righteous shall live by faith (a truth Habakkuk will teach us this coming Lord's Day).

We also **commune**. There is a present aspect to what we will do this Sunday morning. The One whose death we commemorate is living and present with us. Jesus Christ is present at the table; He is the host. We commune with our Savior in the eating of the bread and the drinking of the cup. "Is not the cup of blessing which we bless a sharing in the blood of Christ? Is not the bread which we break a sharing in the body of Christ?" (1 Cor. 10:16). In Him are all spiritual blessings; by His Holy Spirit and by faith we partake of all that is in Him. You who eat with faith, repentance, and love will feed upon His body and blood – not literally (the bread and the wine remain bread and wine), but spiritually. We are nourished spiritually, and grow in grace as we remember what our sin deserves and Christ's death in our place. As

we eat we renew our thankfulness and our commitment to God, as well as our love and fellowship with one another, as members of the body of Christ. We declare our willingness to walk in the steps our Savior trod, suffering for His sake and the sake of the gospel.

Finally, at the Lord's Supper we **anticipate**. We "proclaim the Lord's death until He comes." We must not forget the future aspect to what we will do Sunday. There will one day be a presence of Jesus bodily and visibly, and seeing Him we will be made like Him! This sacrament will be no more, for the marriage supper of the Lamb will be at hand. We anticipate that day every time we partake of the Lord's Supper.

In light of these three realities, the believer looks in four directions as he/she comes to the Lord's Table: within, back, forward, and around. 1) **Within**. Examine yourself, says Paul in 1 Cor. 11:28. Look for sin to confess, for knowledge of Christ and of what the Lord's Supper is all about, for faith to feed upon Him, for repentance, love, and new obedience. 2) **Back**. Look to Christ, who died to forgive your sins, who suffered that you might be reconciled to God, who drank the cup of God's wrath that you might drink the cup of God's blessing. 3) **Forward**. Look with joy to the second coming, when we will feast with our heavenly Bridegroom in person. 4) **Around**. We must discern or judge the body, says Paul in 1 Cor. 11. That is, we must realize that we are not only in union and communion with Christ, but with one another, and are called to love and serve one another and forgive one another as God in Christ has served and forgiven us. Parents and grandparents, I encourage you to use these words as you discuss the Lord's Supper with your children and grandchildren – especially if they are not yet communing members. Let us pray that God would continue to work the reality and the maturity of faith into our hearts and the hearts of our children's children, and that this coming celebration of the sacrament of the Lord's Supper would indeed be a means of grace to us all.

We began Wednesday night adult small groups this week, and new Sunday School classes begin this Sunday; please note the various offerings later on in the newsletter. These times of fellowship and instruction are a wonderful way to get to know in a more intimate way the body of Christ, the word of God, and the God of the word, and I encourage you to participate as you are able.

Your Pastor,
Caleb

Changes...

- Sunday, September 13th**
 Morning Worship location will change from the **Multi-purpose Room** to the **Cafeteria**. The Sunday School classes will also be rearranged a little: Biblical Economics Class will also meet in the Cafeteria. 2-9 Year Old Children's Sunday Schools will meet in the Multipurpose Room; 10-11 Year Olds will meet in the Kindergarten Classroom (beyond the School Offices).

Last Saturday, members worked hard to spruce up the church property. Notice the new landscaping and artfully trimmed shrubbery the next time you drive by! Many thanks to all who helped out.



It's Baby Shower Time!

Ladies, mark your calendars for a Baby Shower on September 18, 6:00 pm for Sarah Dobbins (boy) and Elizabeth Cangelosi (girl). It will be held at the Church House (next to the Office). If you want to contribute to a gift card, contact Apryl Farris by 9/16. Cell: 931-260-6598 Home: 931-761-8047

Shepherding Meal Reminder

Each Shepherding Group will meet once a month for a Fellowship Lunch...see the schedule below. If you are a member or regular attendee and you don't know which group you are in, contact the church office. Visitors and college students are invited to every lunch. Lunches will be potluck...please bring a simple dish to share (unless your Elder tells you differently).

Saturday Setups

Every Saturday morning, volunteers help set up the school to make it ready for Sunday services. If you could help one Saturday or more, please contact Landon Vick.

Shepherding Meal Schedule

Date	Elder	Location
9/6	Richards	Cafeteria
9/13	Parker	Cafeteria
9/20	Row	Rows' home
9/27	Bleasdale	TBA

Nursery Volunteers and Greeters

	9/6	9/13
SS Babies	Estella Nyhof	Racquel Nyhof
AM Worship Babies	Stevens	Dobbins
AM Worship Toddlers	S. Seitzinger/A. Richards	Walker
PM Worship Babies	Parker	McClearn
Greeters	C. Stewart/J. Welch	Stevens

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9/6 Lord's Supper Shepherding Meal (Richards)	9/7 Calvin's Institutes will not meet Anniversary! Wachsmuth	9/8	9/9	9/10 6:00 pm Young & Happy El Tapatio	9/11	9/12
9/13 Shepherding Meal (Parker) 4:00 pm Family Ministry Committee Meeting at Algood School	9/14 12 noon Calvin's Institutes Church Office 6:00 pm Session Meeting Birthday! Denise Bunting Anniversary! Medley	9/15	9/16	9/17 Young & Happy Ladies' Fellowship Birthday! Jonathan Lee	9/18 6:00 pm Baby Shower for Elizabeth & Sarah at the Church House	9/19 3:00 pm Picnic for Church Officers Birthdays! Chuck Craig Rachel Soyster Robin Twitty

Adult Small Groups on Wednesday Nights

In I Thessalonians 5:11, Paul reminds us that we are to “encourage one another and build up one another.” One of the best ways to do this is in a small group of believers. Sunday morning and evening worship, and Sunday School, are wonderful times of instruction and corporate encouragement. But we need to be stimulating one another to love and good deeds in a more intimate setting as well (Heb. 10:24-25). Small groups are a great opportunity to know one another better, to have a place to ask questions and discuss things we’ve been learning, and to be iron sharpening iron to one another (Prov. 27:17). Here are the offerings this semester on Wednesday, beginning September 2nd:

1. *War of Words*, by Paul David Tripp. John Rust will lead this video series and discussion of our communication, and how the gospel affects the way we speak to one another.
2. *Transforming Grace*, by Jerry Bridges. Dennis Parker will lead discussion of this classic book on living confidently in the grace of God as we struggle to pursue holiness in the fear of God.
3. *Prayer Meeting*. Caleb Cangelosi will lead anyone interested in approaching God’s throne of grace on behalf of individuals, the church, and the world.

Children’s Catechism (ages 4 and up) and Youth Group are also meeting Wednesday nights.

Adult Sunday School Classes

September 6th marks the beginning of the Fall Quarter, which means we have all new Sunday School classes!

1. *Inquirers’ Class* – If you are a visitor and would like to learn more about/join our church, or if you are a member and want to be refreshed in the basics of what we believe as a church, then join Darryl Richards as he teaches this regularly offered class. This class will meet in the Conference Room (near the stairs and School Offices).

2. *Biblical Economics* – Does the Bible have anything to say about money, or about how we should think about the economic questions of our day? The answer is yes, and Brad Bleasdale and Landon Vick will be team teaching this class, seeking to help us think Christianly and take every thought captive about the subject of economics. On September 6th, this class will meet in the Multipurpose Room. After that it will meet in the cafeteria.

3. *Paul’s Letter to the Galatians* – What is the gospel? How does it bring freedom to our lives? How do we keep from falling into legalism or lawlessness as we seek to abide in Christ? How do we live in obedience and love? Join Jamey Farris, Andy Berg, and possibly others as they lead a discussion through Paul’s great charter of Christian freedom. This class will be using a NavPress *Life Change* Bible study book to explore God’s word, and it will meet in the Music Room.



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