



Week@Grace

Weekly e-Newsletter of Grace Presbyterian Church Plano, Texas

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July 10, 2008

Worship with Us!

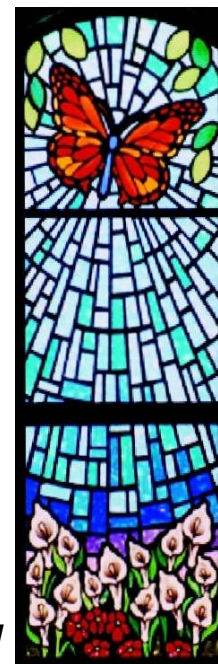
Sunday Morning Worship July 13, 2008

8:30 am
Contemporary Service
Sanctuary

11:00 am
Traditional Service
Sanctuary

11:15 am
Brazilian
New Church Development
Wheelus Hall

Guest Pastor
Robert M. Poteet
God's Gift: Living and Breathing
Based on Romans 8:1-11



General News

Guest Pastor Robert Poteet to Preach July 13

The Rev. Dr. Robert M. Poteet will be guest preacher on Sunday, July 13. Dr. Poteet is a graduate of Trinity University, San Antonio, TX. He earned the Master of Divinity degree from Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary and the Doctor of Ministry degree from Union Theological Seminary, Richmond VA. Bob served as associate pastor at Covenant Presbyterian Church, Carrollton; Westminster PC, Dallas; and Canyon Creek PC, Richardson. He was Minister of Education and Program at First Presbyterian Church, San Antonio, before becoming Executive Pastor of Orange Presbytery, Durham, NC. For 20 years Bob served Grace PC, Houston, first as Associate Pastor for Christian Education and then as Executive Pastor there. Bob retired March 31 and moved to Dallas. He and his wife Carol have three grown children and four grandchildren.

Legacy NCD Pre-Launch Service Is Sunday, July 13

The fourth of five special, pre-launch worship services hosted by Legacy Presbyterian New Church Development (NCD) is Sunday, July 13. The service begins at 5:30 pm at Corbell Elementary School, 11095 Monarch Drive, in Frisco. Please sign up in the Narthex. The final pre-launch service will be August 10.

Church's Website Can Be Welcoming 'Front Door'

By Richard Barnard, Director of Communications

I love wooden doors. The church I served for nearly two decades had beautiful, handcrafted wooden doors. They were wonderful -- and not so wonderful. Though they were lovely to look at, daily exposure to the blazing Texas sun took its toll. We were continually having to refinish those doors. Without proper maintenance they went from really pretty to really ugly really quickly. Sometimes our front doors were inviting; sometimes, not so much. I remember one bride's lament that she just couldn't have her family and friends arriving for the wedding only to be greeted by those "ratty-looking" doors.

Doors teach us an important lesson: First impressions are important.

For more and more people, the front door to the church is a website. And many people will choose to visit -- or not to visit -- Grace Presbyterian Church based on what they see or don't see on our website. That's why we've formed a working group to make certain our electronic front door is as appealing and inviting as possible. Members of this working group are Julie Haworth, Jerry Reece, Julie Sieverman and Tammy Toll. As director of communications, I am facilitator of the working group and will take an active role in both the revision of the website and its day-to-day operation when the revisions are completed.

Even while the working group is still working, the process of revision is already underway. You should notice some subtle differences immediately. In the coming weeks the changes will become more apparent.

Grace PC has been fortunate over the years to have had a very comprehensive website. We are all grateful for that solid beginning. Speaking for the working group, I welcome your ideas and suggestions, but I especially value your patience. The process may not always move as quickly or smoothly as we would like, but I have every confidence that the result will be worth the effort. And in a few weeks we will have a new coat of paint welcoming people to our front door.

Being Financially Responsible During Summer Months

As we vacation and relax this summer, we need to be reminded to keep our giving up-to-date. This will help Grace Presbyterian Church during the summer months when expenses are traditionally high and income is traditionally low. Thanks in advance for your faithfulness in this area.

July Office Hours

The Grace PC office will be closed on Fridays during July. Grace Presbyterian Christian Day School will be open as usual for all regularly scheduled events.

Grace Community

'Taste of Amazon' To Share Brazil Mission Experience

The Brazil Mission team invites the Grace PC family to join them on Sunday, July 13, at 7:00 pm for *A Taste of the Amazon*. Come to Wheelus Hall to taste the foods they ate, see the sights they saw and hear stories of God's amazing work in Novo Aripuana.

Top Gun Meeting Is for Men Who Would Be Leaders

Men who are interested in participating in Top Gun during the 2008-09 school year can attend a get-acquainted meeting on Thursday, July 17. Top Gun is a Christian leadership program designed to prepare men to be leaders in their homes, workplaces, churches and the world. If you are looking for a program to deepen your faith and strengthen yourself as a disciple of Jesus Christ, plan to attend this information meeting. It starts at 7:00 pm in Room 210 of the Christian Education Building. Enter through the west doors of the CE Building.

Birthday Fund Supports Scholarships

Happy Birthday to all who celebrate in July! Last school year Grace PC awarded 10 semesters of scholarships to local needy students. Current donations will allow us to award only three semesters which will start in August. We need your help to continue this worthy local effort. Honor yourself, a friend or a family member with a donation to the Birthday Fund. Use the Birthday envelope found in the offering envelope box. Or just make a donation to the birthday fund in the offering plate -- simply note the birthday fund.

STARs to Beat the Heat with Ice Cream in July

What's better than ice cream on a hot Texas afternoon? If you are at least 55 years old, then the Grace PC STARs (Seniors To Assemble Regularly) have the perfect remedy for the July heat. They will host an Ice Cream Social, followed by domino games, on Wednesday, July 23, from 1:00 pm until 3:00 pm in Wheelus Hall. You do not need to bring anything, and guests are welcome. You do not have to be a member of Grace Presbyterian Church to attend STAR events. Hosts for the July event will be Donna and Dave Jasper. For more information or transportation assistance email Donna and Dave or call (972) 985-1147.

Bible Study Offers Summer 'Travel' Opportunity

Travel the Mediterranean from your comfy chair! The Tuesday Morning Bible Study will be reading about the journeys of Paul in the book of Acts this summer. Everyone is invited. The group gathers at 9:30 am in the Parlor, opens with prayer at 10:00 am and concludes about 11:15 am. Often they go to lunch together after class.

Taste Test July 29 Will Support Handbell Choir Trip

In early August Grace PC's adult handbell choir, *Grace Notes*, will attend the 13th International Handbell Symposium in Orlando, Florida. To raise funds for the trip the bell choir is sponsoring a taste test at the church on Tuesday, July 29. They need volunteers, ages 13-65, to give 45 minutes of their time to taste snack foods. If you are interested, visit the table in the Narthex on Sunday or email taste test.

You can also support the handbell choir by purchasing note cards and bookmarks of Grace PC's beautiful stained-glass windows. They are for sale in the Narthex, and proceeds will also benefit the summer Symposium trip. A pack of 10 note cards is \$15. Bookmarks are \$1 each. The supply is limited, so buy yours this week!

Youth Ministry

Fun in the Sun Begins July 13 -- Early!

The *Fun in the Sun* caravan departs Sunday, July 13, at 5:30 am. Meet in the West parking lot.

High School Girls Bible Study on Tuesdays

Join a great Bible study for high school girls each Tuesday at 7:00 pm in Room 5, Grace Place -- led by Renee Comen and Tammy Toll. New ninth graders welcome!

All-Youth Movie Night

The All-Youth Movie Night at Grace is Sunday, July 20, Room 203, CE Building, from 7:00 until 9:00 pm. Popcorn and drinks. BYOFRIENDS!

Events and Programs for Children

Register Now! SMACK Camp For Kids Starts Monday

Register now for the opportunity of the summer: SMACK, Summer Music and Arts Camp for Kids! Time is running out. This unique and entertaining educational experience gets underway on Monday, July 14, and runs through Friday, July 18. Daily sessions begin at 9:00 am and last until noon.



There are still a few spots available in each of the grades, but the last day to register is Sunday, July 13. Children who show up on Monday morning without registering may not have a place or may not receive a t-shirt. So sign up now!

SMACK is for all children who have completed Kindergarten through fifth grade. The program costs \$35 per child. However, space is limited to 15 students per grade. Activities include singing, dance, drama, playing instruments, art and more. The registration fee includes a t-shirt and art supplies. A free continental breakfast will be served in Wheelus Hall from 8:30 until 8:50 am. All participants and their families are invited to share in the potluck dinner and closing worship celebration on Friday, July 18, from 6:00 until 8:00 pm. Pick up a registration form in the church office, the narthex, or [download](#) the registration form and [medical release form](#) from the [Grace PC website](#).

Adult and youth (grades 7+) are invited to volunteer to help with various activities so [email Stephanie](#) Rhoades or call 972-596-6233 x6808 if you would like to help or need additional information.

Children's Ministry Asks: 'What Would Jesus Do?'

WWJD? You've probably heard that before: "What Would Jesus Do?" That's the summer theme in the elementary rotational Sunday school -- Pathway to Grace. "If we want our children to grow into mature Christians and strive to be like Christ in everything they do, then we must teach them what it means to follow Christ in 2008," says Kelly Rauum, interim director of children's ministry. "To that end, we'll be studying faith in Christ and His miracles, followed by the Good Samaritan, Forgiveness and Service/Servanthood. We'll do this all in combined classes while rotating through 2/3-week units." The children will be viewing a short DVD of the Bible lesson, then discussing the major themes, working on puzzles and activities, acting out scenes from the story and more!

Children's Ministry Still Needs Helpers in August

There are still a few open spots for teachers in August. If you can give three Sundays at the end of the summer, please [email Kelly](#) Raaum or call 972-596-6233 ext.6810. Come help us lead our children to discover how God is calling them to live in 2008!

Mission

Recycled Items Provide Support for Mission Efforts

Did you find some items you could recycle when searching for summer things? Remember to donate the following to the clothes closet by the west entrance to the Narthex or the recycle baskets across from the office:

- new or clean and gently used clothing
- empty printer ink jet cartridges
- hotel soaps and small toiletries
- used eyeglasses
- toys from fast-food kids' meals
- cell phones -- working or not working
- digital cameras
- digital camcorders
- Apple ipods
- PDAs
- and especially Nextel cell phones.

We are also able to accept laptop computers with processor speeds greater than 730Mhz. We regret that we are not able to accept other used computer equipment or used furniture at this time. Also note: cell phone accessories cannot be recycled. The money raised from recycling these items supports mission efforts. Thanks for recycling. It's a way of sharing and a stewardship of our many goods.

Food Pantry Receives Grace PC Donations

Food donations in July will be delivered to the Plano Food Pantry. Requested items for July: pasta, spaghetti sauce, cereal and especially fruit juice. Personal hygiene items are always needed. Please continue to place your food donations in the container across from the church office.

Sunday Morning Highlights

Sunday's Music

During the 11:00 am service the *Sanctuary Choir* will sing *How Can I Keep from Singing?*, by Lowry/Hugh, with Jerry Reece as soloist. Stephanie Rhoades will fill in for Tracy DePue, as Tracy will be in Massachusetts for a week of continuing education.

Flowers in the Sanctuary

The Flowers in the Sanctuary on Sunday, July 13, are given to the Glory of God by Bob Gunn in memory of his father Ewing L. Gunn and by Dave Long in celebration of his and Sue's 31st Anniversary.

Prayer Cards

Look for the prayer cards in the pew pockets. If you have a request (prayers of praise, rejoicing, healing, comfort, concerns, etc.), fill out a card and place it in the collection plate.

We need your correct and current email address

Please help us keep our membership database current. Fill out the information cards found on the tables in the Narthex and return them to the church office or [email](#) your information to [Richard](#) Barnard. The church office uses email to communicate important information to our members.

Congregational Care

Remember in Your Prayers

Members who are facing problems and illness:

- Betty Tobermann
- Mervice Hansen
- Bill Wollett
- Karen Migliore
- Mary Ellen Chase
- David Hansen
- Mary Harrison
- Quinn Flanagan
- Jim Smith

Additional Information

Contributions for July 6, 2008

General Fund \$12,357

Through June 30

2008

YTD General Fund \$493,648

YTD Mortgage balance \$541,088

2007

YTD General Fund \$516,227

YTD Mortgage balance \$788,841

June 30 *Prepare the Way* update

Total \$ Pledged \$1,016,485

Phase I Received \$400,000

Phase II Received \$190,563

Attendance for worship services July 6, 2008 - 356

How To Submit Articles and Information

For the Weekly Service Bulletin

The deadline for submitting articles and information for the weekly service bulletin is 5:00 pm Tuesday. Articles can be submitted online by [emailing Marci](#) Adams. If you are unable to email your information, you may call 972-596-6233 x6800 or mail or bring the information to the church office.

For Week@Grace

The deadline for submitting articles and information for *Week@Grace* is noon Wednesday. Articles can be submitted online by [emailing Richard](#) Barnard. If you

are unable to email your information, you may call 972-596-6233 x6803 or mail or bring the information to the church office.

For Both Publications

Marci and Richard share information when preparing the bulletin and *Week@Grace*. However, if you wish your information to appear in both publications the safest course of action is to email or contact both [Marci](#) and [Richard](#).

Grace PC Staff Email Addresses

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Week@Grace

Week@Grace is published every Thursday to communicate to all GPC members the latest news and information about events, activities and other happenings at Grace. **Week@Grace** is sent every Thursday to all GPC members whose e-mail addresses are in our membership database. To continue receiving this notification, please be sure to contact the church office if your e-mail address changes. Ministries, please [click here](#) to submit any announcements you want to communicate for the upcoming week or two. Deadline for article submission is noon on Wednesday.

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