



Week@Grace

Weekly e-Newsletter of Grace Presbyterian Church Plano, Texas

In This Issue

[General News](#)

[Grace Community](#)

[Youth Ministry](#)

[Children's Events and Programs](#)

[Mission News](#)

[Sunday Morning Highlights](#)

[Congregational Care](#)

[Financial Update](#)

[How to Submit Articles and Information](#)

[Staff Email Address](#)

Quick Links

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July 24, 2008

Worship with Us!

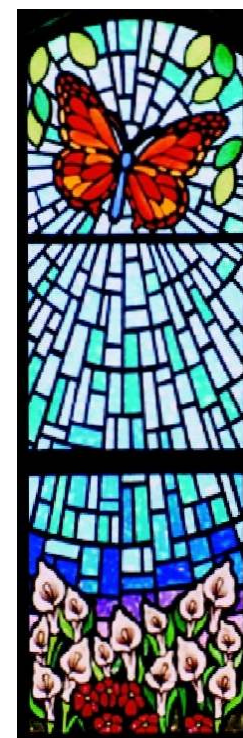
Sunday Morning Worship July 27, 2008

8:30 am
Contemporary Service
Sanctuary

11:00 am
Traditional Service
Sanctuary

11:15 am
Brazilian
New Church Development
Wheelus Hall

Pastor Al's Message
The Venus Rosewater Dish?
Based on Matthew 13:31-33
and 44-53



General News

Saturday's Brazilian Festival Celebrates Country Life

Pastor Honorio Theodoro and the congregation of Brazilian Presbyterian New Church Development invite the Grace PC family to join them this Saturday evening, July 26, for a traditional Brazilian festival. Based on the Festa Junina, the festival celebrates the traditions of country people with costumes, food and dance. The celebration begins at 5:00 pm and lasts through the evening. [Email Pastor Honorio](#) for more information.

Pack To School Mission Project To Help Area Children

Here's the formula: Crisp new notebooks + Pointed crayons + Colorful folders + Carefully sharpened pencils = A fresh start on a new school year! The Children's Ministry invites the entire congregation of Grace Presbyterian Church to make that start a little easier for disadvantaged local children by helping provide much-needed school supplies. Questions? [Email Beverly](#) Kester.

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/August Office Hours

The Grace PC office will be closed on Fridays during July and on Friday, August 1. Grace Presbyterian Day School will be open as usual for all regularly scheduled events.

[Return to top of the page](#)

Grace Community

Three from GPC Complete Stephen Ministry Training

Congratulations to Shirley Gunn and Mike Shaw who have just completed an intensive, week-long training course to prepare them for leadership in the Grace PC Stephen Ministry. Stephen Ministry is a national organization that equips lay people to provide one-to-one Christian care to hurting people. Lisa Reece, another member of Grace PC, also completed the training in her capacity as a staff member at Southlake Boulevard Presbyterian Church. "It is a joy to welcome Shirley and Mike to this ministry in a leadership capacity," said Charlotte Henning, a Stephen Minister Leader at Grace PC. According to Charlotte, another Stephen Ministry training class at GPC will be planned as soon as possible. If you feel you are called to this ministry, please [email Charlotte](#) Henning or call 972-596-3193.

Worship Committee Needs Volunteer

The Worship Committee needs a volunteer to make two loaves of bread for communion the first Sunday of each month. "Ann and Brad Boles have been doing this for years," said Cyndi Flanagan of the Worship Committee, "and we applaud them for a job well done!" If you would like to volunteer, call Cyndi at 972-867-5781.

Taste Test July 29 To Benefit Handbell Choir Trip

In August Grace PC's adult handbell choir, *Grace Notes*, will attend the 13th International Handbell Symposium in Orlando, FL. 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 Symposium trip. A pack of ten note cards is \$15. Bookmarks are \$1 each. The supply is limited, so buy yours this week.

Yada Yada Book Discussion Group Meets August 14

Join the Yada Yada book discussion group in the church library for a lively discussion and wonderful fellowship on Thursday, August 14. at 10:00 am. The book for August is *Fire by Night* by Lynn Austin.

[Return to top of the page](#)

Youth Ministry

No Logos and Crossroads July 27

The *Logos* and *Crossroads* youth fellowships will not meet this Sunday, July 27.

Sunday, August 3, Is Hurricane Harbor Sign-Up Deadline

Sunday, August 3, is the deadline to sign up for All-Youth (sixth through twelfth grades) day at Hurricane Harbor. Call or [email Bridget](#) to sign up. [Buy your own ticket online](#). We will meet at the church on Thursday, August 7, at 9:30 am for a fun-filled day in the water. Bring money for food!

High School Girls Study the Bible on Tuesday Evenings

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 are welcome.

RoughRiders Game: All-Youth Event

Monday, July 28, is the All-Youth (sixth through twelfth grades) outing to the RoughRiders game. Meet at the church at 6:00 pm. You *MUST* be preregistered. [Email Bridget](#) Maloney.

Celebration Weekend is August 1-3

Celebration is a weekend event -- Friday through Sunday, August 1-3 -- for youth in ninth through twelfth grades. The location is Camp Gilmont near Tyler/Longview. "We strongly encourage our youth who have not already attended to take part in this event," says interim Youth Director Bridget Maloney. "Several of our youth will be leaders, and we have two adults who are on the leadership team as well." For more information [email Bridget](#) or visit the [North Texas Celebration](#) website to sign up and pay.

[Return to top of the page](#)

Events and Programs for Children

Play Ball This Fall! August 24 Is GPC "Signing Day"

Attention Players (first through twelfth graders) and Fans (parents): Come to the "Ballpark at GPC" (upstairs, CE building) for a preview of sporting and spiritual plans for the 2008-'09 season! Players will sign-up for Sunday school, choirs, bells, fellowships, Bible study, camps, retreats and mission opportunities. Coaches and Fans will complete registration materials, and sign up for volunteer positions in the ministries. Everyone will have a chance to take a pre-season look at '08-'09 schedules, pictures and stats and to play some games!

Dates To Remember

Mark your calendars now so you don't miss these important events:

- August 24 - *Blessing of the Backpacks*, 8:30 and 11:00 am worship services
- August 24 - *Signing Day*, 9:45 am all children and youth sign up for 2008-'09 events and programs
- August 31 - *Season Opener* promotion day for all Sunday School classes
- September 5 - *Dive In*, First Friday Friends (FFF) Swim Party
- September 7 - *Fourth Grade Bible Sunday*, 8:30 and 11:00 am worship services

[Return to top of the page](#)

Mission News

Don't Forget To Recycle Unneeded Items

Remember to cycle those unwanted or unneeded items. Bring your donations to the clothes closet (by the west entrance) or the recycle baskets across from the office.

Items you can recycle include

- 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
- 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 730 Mhz. We regret that we are not able to accept other used computer equipment or used furniture at this time. Also note: cell phone accessories are not able to 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.

Plano Food Pantry Receives Donations

Food donations in July will be delivered to the Plano Food Pantry. Requested items for July are: 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.

[Return to top of the page](#)

Sunday Morning Highlights

Sunday's Music

During the 8:30 am service *Exultation* will sing *I Will Give Thanks*, by Allen Pote. The *Sanctuary Choir* will sing *Awake, My Heart*, by Jane Marshall, for the anthem during the 11:00 am service and *The Peace of God*, by John Rutter, for the offertory.

Flowers in the Sanctuary

The Flowers in the Sanctuary on Sunday are given by Glenn Houser to the Glory of God and in memory of his wife Jean W. Houser.

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.

[Return to top of the page](#)

Congregational Care

Editor's Note. . .

We are working to improve the way we process prayer requests and inform our congregation about the needs of fellow members who are facing problems and illness. Watch this space for new information.

[Return to top of the page](#)

Financial Updates

Contribution for July 20, 2008

General Fund \$12,772
Additional Gifts \$175

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 \$208,219

Attendance for worship services July 20, 2008 - 315

[Return to top of the page](#)

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 your information to the church office.

For *Week@Grace*

The deadline for submitting articles and information for the *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 your 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](#).

Special *Week@Grace* Schedule

The editor will be out of the office from July 24 until August 5. *Week@Grace* will be published as usual on Thursday, July 31. However, articles and information not already received will not appear in *Week@Grace* until the August 7 edition.

[Return to top of the page](#)

Grace PC Staff Email Addresses

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[Return to top of the page](#)

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 Wednesday.

[Return to top of the page](#)

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