

Grace Weekly Email Update

November 19, 2025

Message from JD Cunny (Associate Pastor)



A few weeks ago, I had the opportunity to attend a pastors' conference in Dallas—an encouraging and challenging time of learning alongside church leaders from across the country. One of the central themes of the conference was discipleship to Jesus through intentional, life-giving small groups. The speakers reminded us that discipleship doesn't flourish in isolation; it grows best in circles, not rows—when believers gather consistently, share openly, study Scripture together, and walk out the way of Jesus side by side.

I am truly grateful for the small groups and Bible studies we have here at Grace. So many of you have experienced rich teaching, heartfelt prayer, and lasting friendships through them, and these groups have been a wonderful example of what a Jesus-centered community can be.

That's why, beginning in January, we will be launching a renewed focus on what I am calling "Community Groups." These groups will be built around connection, spiritual growth, prayer, and simply doing life together. More details will be coming soon, but I'm excited about the potential for deeper relationships and deeper discipleship as we step into this next season.

I also want to say a heartfelt thank you to everyone who picked up an Angel Tree tag this year. We partner each year with Families in Transition, and because of your generosity, every single one of those tags has already been taken! What a blessing to those families and children. Just a reminder, those gifts are due back December 7.

But don't worry—if you haven't had the chance to take a tag yet, there is still an opportunity to bless others. We have received 25 additional Angel Tree tags from the Heart to Heart Pregnancy Center. These gifts are due back December 3. If you would like to participate, please grab a tag this Sunday and help us show the love of Christ in a tangible way.

Thank you, Grace family, for being generous, servant-hearted, and eager to grow. I can't wait to see how God moves among us in the months ahead.

Blessings,

JD Cunny

WORSHIP SERVICES — November 23 & 24

Traditional (8:30am Sunday)

Hymns: We Gather Together; Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

Modern (9:30 & 11:00am Sunday, 6pm Monday)

Songs: My Testimony; Evidence; Been So Good; Our Father

Live Stream @ 9:30am Sunday: [Facebook](#) & [YouTube](#)

Past Sermons/Materials: Click [HERE](#).

KIDS MINISTRY

(Infants—PreK)



Contact:
[Christine Turpin](#)



**Kids Church
Thank You**
(Nov 2—23)

In life, we can choose to grumble and be selfish, or we can choose to be grateful. Kids will learn that we should praise God and give him thanks every day.

Memory Verse:
*"Give thanks to the Lord,
because He is good.*
1 Chronicles 16:34a

(K-5th Grade)



Contact:
[Sarah Reykers](#)



**Kids Church
Simply
Loved**
(November)

Something New in Kids Church

Hey parents! Your kids are coming home with a Thankful calendar challenge for November! Help them fill it out each day and bring it back after Nov 30 for a treat!

Our new verse: 
"Be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to anger."
James 1:19



Grace Kids Needs VOLUNTEERS!!

Grace Kids Ministry has GROWN and we need you! We have volunteer opportunities to teach the lesson and to be a helper in the room. You can serve as little as once a month or as much as every Sunday! [Email](#) or text (479-414-2071) Sarah to start teaching little disciples!

Spring Weekend Retreat (3rd-5th Graders)

Camp Siloam, April 10-12, 2026

Instead of a full week camp in summer 2026, we are doing a spring weekend retreat! It will be at the same location, [Camp Siloam](#). The tentative plan is to leave Grace around 3:30 on that Friday so we have time to stop and eat and arrive by check-in time. We will return Sunday around noon.



Cost is \$130 with a \$35 nonrefundable deposit due at time of registration. The remaining balance can be paid out over the next few months. We will send reminders and a link to pay the installments. PLEASE do not let cost be an issue. We have scholarships available for those that may need it. Please let [Sarah Reyers](#) know if you need financial assistance.

As we get more details closer to time, we will pass them along! Register [HERE](#).

DASH & FM

(6-8th grades) & (9-12th grades)

Contact [Dana](#) For DASH and FM

Dash/FM Page on Grace Website—Click [HERE](#)



Youth Wednesday Night! 6pm-7:30pm



Canned Food Drive

Nov. 5-Dec 10

Rewards for the Winner!

Confirmation Class, Sundays, January 11-March 15

9:30-10:30am in the Student Ministry Bldg.

For 6th Graders and Older

Theme: A Deeper Understanding In Our Faith Journey

For more details and sign ups, click [HERE](#).



CONNECT—On Going Groups



Upper Room Daily Devotional Discussion Group **1st & 3rd Wednesdays** **1-2pm, Activity Center**

Using the Upper Room Daily Devotional Guide, ladies discuss the daily reading and the Bible verses as a launching pad for in-depth discussions to include sharing personal experiences. Class is led by Ava Imotichey.



By Hook, Needle & Craft Women's Group **1st & 3rd Thursdays** **1pm, Activity Center**

Join a group of women who love crafts and visiting with each other. Crafts include knitting, crewel, needlepoint, cross-stitch and any other craft you wish to do. If you are gifted with these talents or want to learn, join these ladies in this wonderful ministry. On the few occasions when the first day of the month falls on a Thursday, meetings will be on 2nd & 4th Thursdays. Class is led by Mary Carter.



Men's Fellowship Lunch **1st Thursdays, Dec. 4, 12pm** **The Egg of Fort Smith** **3801 Planters Rd.**

Join men from Grace the first Thursday of each month, 12pm at The Egg of Fort Smith for a meal, fellowship and updates on our Men's Ministry. There is no need to sign up. We usually meet from noon-1pm. Invite a friend or co-worker.



Singles Ministry **Thrive Monthly Lunch** **1st Saturday Each Month, Noon** **Anthony's Italian Restaurant**

Are you looking to find a community at Grace? Join the Thrive- Single's ministry for a monthly lunch full with conversation, connection, and yummy Italian food! Thrive will meet every 1st Saturday of the Month. The lunch will be hosted at Anthony's Italian Restaurant. No need to sign-up, just come when you can! If you have any questions please reach out to [Reagan Newell](#). Dec 6

CHRISTMAS EVENTS



Family Advent Study, starts Nov. 30

As a church, Advent invites us to remember the first coming of Jesus and to joyfully anticipate His second coming. Sunday, November 30th marks the beginning of the Advent season. Over the

four weeks leading up to Christmas, we will reflect on the Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love revealed through the birth of Christ. This is a meaningful time for us to slow down, refocus our hearts, and walk together toward the celebration of Jesus' arrival.

To help guide you through this season, we've created a simple, family-friendly Advent study. Each week includes five daily devotionals with a short reading, a Scripture passage, and reflection questions for young children, teens, and adults. For those who enjoy hands-on activities, each week also includes a weekend challenge designed to help your family practice what you've been learning. Advent guides will be available for pick-up in the church lobby this Sunday November 23rd or in the church office. There are electronic copies available on the front page of the [website](#). If you have any questions please reach out to [Reagan Newell](#).



Christmas Choir Practices Have Started

It is not too late to be a part of the Christmas Choir. To find information on rehearsal times, important dates, skills needed, and other things

pertaining to the Christmas choir, click [HERE](#). To sign up, click [HERE](#).

Rehearsal times are as follows:

- Sundays, Nov. 2—Dec 14, 12:30-2pm, Chapel
- Wednesday, Dec. 17, 5:30-7:30pm, choir and band, worship center
- Sunday, Dec. 21: (Day of service) 7:30-9am, final run-through with full band and choir in the worship center



Deck the Halls

Chili Cook Off and Cookie Bake Off

Sunday, November 30

5-7pm 'ish, Student Ministry Bldg

Come join our Grace family for a fun, festive night of food and decorating! We will begin at 5:00pm with our annual Chili Cook Off + Cookie Bake Off in the Student Ministry Building. We'll then divide everyone up to help us deck the halls of Grace with Christmas decor!

If you are interested in entering a Chili or Cookie [sign-up now!](#) Childcare will be available during the event up until 7pm.



The Christmas Bells

Conversation About Personal Tragedy and Cultural Turmoil

Facilitator: Kathryn O'Brien

This isn't a Bible study; it isn't even an Advent study —> this is a conversation about how personal tragedy and cultural turmoil can lead us to a place of hope and peace. Henry Wordsworth Longfellow, wrote the poem, "Christmas Bells" under just such circumstances and his story will lay the foundation of our discussion. His beautiful poem inspired the writing of the beloved Christmas carol, "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day."

Come join us for three Wednesday mornings in the chapel:

December 3 & 10: 10-11:30 am

December 17: 9-11:30 am

Click [HERE](#) to learn more about the study and to register.

CHRISTMAS EVENTS



Ladies Christmas Tea Saturday, December 6, 10-11:30am Worship Center

Join the ladies of Grace for a festive Christmas tea/brunch. We will worship together and hear a wonderful message from our speaker **Jenn Jett Barret**. Our theme this year is "A Thrill of Hope". In the midst of all of life's struggles we want to begin the Christmas season grounded in the Hope that the birth of Christ brings us. We are women who have the privilege of living with a hope that the world cannot offer, we want to celebrate that truth together! Register [HERE](#). **Deadline to sign up is November 28!**



Jenn Jett Barret
Speaker

Drop & Shop, Saturday, December 6, 12-4pm

Need a few hours to get your Christmas shopping done without little eyes watching? We've got you covered! Drop your kiddos off for a fun-filled afternoon while you check off that gift list. Kids will enjoy a day packed with holiday fun: hotdogs for lunch, cookie decorating, Christmas crafts, and Minute to Win It games that will keep them laughing and busy! Drop-off & Pick-up will be in the Student Ministry Building main entrance. Spots are LIMITED, so don't wait to register! The Cost is \$10 per child. It's a win for parents and kids -- you shop, they play! Sign up [HERE](#).



Christmas Eve Services

Wednesday, December 24, 4 & 6 PM

Join us for our special Christmas Eve Service! Come celebrate the joy of Christmas with worship, a message, and our traditional candlelight moment to close the evening. Kids Church will be available for children 5 and under. We can't wait to celebrate with you!





BAKE SALE

BAKE SALE this SUNDAY

November 23, Lobby

We want to fill our church lobby with delicious baked goods to support the FIT (Families in Transitions) program. You can drop off your baked goods by noon on Friday, November 21 or bring them at 8:30 on the 23rd. Items will be sold before and after each service. Pick up a stunning dessert!

Volunteers Needed for Thanksgiving Day Meal Wednesday Prep Day; Thursday Prep and Serve Day Community Rescue Mission (CRM)

NEW!



CRM needs help to prepare their Thanksgiving Day meal. Helpers are needed on Wednesday afternoon November 26, and Thanksgiving Day. Volunteers will help with prepping, cooking, and serving. Please contact [Jeanne Carroll](#) for sign up and times.



VBS "Wish List"

NEW!

As you are taking advantage of "Black Friday" upcoming sales, go out to the ["Wish List"](#) for our VBS program happening this summer. Amazon has some great sales on a few items right now! When you place your order, the items will be shipped directly to Sarah at the church address with a notation of who purchased the item. If you see these same items in other stores at a better price, feel free to purchase them and drop these items to the kids checkin station or at the church office.



Toy/Clothing Drive for FIT

NEW!

All tags for the FIT program have been taken! Thank you, Grace! You are awesome! More opportunity for angel gifts...see article at the bottom!

**Prayers and Gift Distribution
December 7 & 8 for FIT Angels!**

Please come help load gifts as the families drive through the Grace entrance area and help Share the Good News and prayers! Let us meet our people in our community and offer a personal invitation to our Christmas Eve service. A prayer and a personal invitation are powerful ways to share the love of Christ. Please contact [Erin DeLassus](#) for more information.

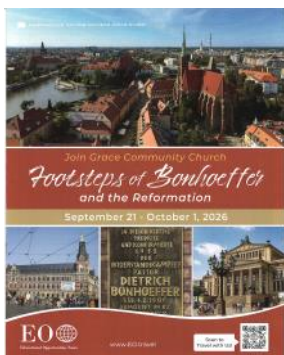
Toy/Clothing Drive for MORE LITTLE ANGELS!!!!

NEW!

We have another opportunity to bless families in our community. The Heart to Heart program has several families that need help with Christmas for their little ones. There will be new tags on the trees for these children. **THESE GIFTS NEED TO BE BACK BY TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3** (which is earlier than the FIT Drive gifts).

OTHER

Two Trips to Europe in 2026 with EO Travel Leaders: [Staci Moore](#) and Jim Acklin Info Meetings Coming Soon Click on the name of the tour to read more.



[Footsteps of Bonhoeffer & the Reformation](#)

(Sept. 21—Oct. 1, 2026)

Join Grace Community Church for the Footsteps of Bonhoeffer and the Reformation, starting at \$5,196* from Fayetteville, on September 21, 2026. You will see the Church of St. Elizabeth, the original village of Lehde, Cecilienhof Palace, the Church of Peace, the picturesque old city of Potsdam, Lutherstadt Wittenberg, Torgau, Leipzig, the door of the Castle Church, Eisleben, Erfurt, St. Nicholas Church, Weimar, Frankfurt area, St. Thomas Church, the Church of St. Peter and Paul, St. Andrew's Church, St. Anne's Church, Wartburg Castle, and much more!

(11 Days in Germany & Poland)

Register Early & Save

\$150 Register by October 21, 2025

\$125 Register by November 21, 2025

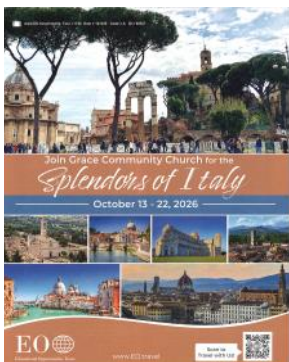
\$100 Register by December 21, 2025

\$75 Register by January 21, 2026

\$50 Register by February 21, 2026

\$25 Register by March 21, 2026

Full deposit required. Savings are deducted from the balance.



[Splendors of Italy](#) (Oct. 12-22, 2026)

Grace Community Church on a Splendors of Italy tour, starting at \$5,196* from Fayetteville, AR on October 13, 2026. You will see Lake Garda, Verona, Venice, the Piazza San Marco, the Basilica of St. Mark, the romantic Bridge of Sighs, Pisa, Lucca, Florence, San Gimignano, Siena, Assisi, the magnificent Colosseum, the Pantheon, the Circus Maximus, the Arch of Titus, the famous Baths of Caracalla, the Arch of Constantine, and much more!

Register Early & Save

\$150 Register by November 13, 2025

\$125 Register by December 13, 2025

\$100 Register by January 13, 2026

\$75 Register by February 13, 2026

\$50 Register by March 13, 2026

\$25 Register by April 13, 2026

(10 Days in Italy)

Full deposit required. Savings are deducted from the balance.

MENTAL HEALTH MINISTRY

Contact [Rick](#) for more information.



Meet our team:

Click [HERE](#).

Mental Health Resources:

Click [HERE](#).

Mental Health page

on our website:

Click [HERE](#).

PRAYER

If you have prayer needs, please submit request [HERE](#).

Community & World

Unsaved

United States

Countries in Turmoil

All Military

Foster and Adoptive Parents

Victims of Violence

Weather Disaster Victims

Eight Days of Hope Ministry

Those who are sick

Those struggling w/mental illness & addictions

Those struggling with grief

Grace Families

Tuckers' new grandson, Rhett

Jeannette Jackson

Samuel Robbins

Anna and Robert Kleinschmidt

Cara, Adam & Tate Price

Brenda Hamilton

Kimberly Dye

Grace Friends

Melba Sargent

Bobby Jones

Tonya

A Father addicted to alcohol

Sympathies

Greg Lowe and family (death of his wife Nora)