

Grace Weekly Email Update

December 31, 2025

Message from JD Cunny (Associate Pastor)



As the Christmas season comes to a close, the glow of lights may fade and the songs may quiet—but the invitation of Christ remains. Christmas reminds us that God stepped into our world, not just to be celebrated for a moment, but to be followed for a lifetime. The question before us now is not “*How was Christmas?*” but “*How will we walk with Jesus in the days ahead?*”

The start of a new year is a gift. It offers fresh rhythms, renewed focus, and new opportunities to grow—not alone, but together. At Grace, we believe spiritual growth happens best in community, and this season is filled with ways to take meaningful next steps.

That’s why we’re excited about several **new opportunities to connect** in the weeks ahead. We are still working on a few details but our hope is to have everything (Classes and Groups) online next week.

First, we’ll be offering a **New Connections Class**—a welcoming space to learn more about Grace, meet others, and discover what it looks like to get connected. Whether you’re new to Grace or simply looking for a next step, this class is a great place to start.

We’re also preparing to launch **Community Groups**, where people gather regularly to build relationships, open Scripture, and apply Sunday’s message to everyday life. These groups are where the church becomes more than a service—it becomes a family.

As we move from Christmas into the new year, may we remember that the same Jesus we worshiped in the manger now invites us to walk with Him daily. This season is an opportunity to take a step—toward connection, toward growth, and toward the life God has for us.

We look forward to walking into this new year together.

God Bless,

JD

WORSHIP SERVICE — January 4 & 5

Traditional (8:30am Sunday)

Hymns: Joy to the World; Go, Tell It On the Mountain

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

Songs: Battle Belongs; Build My Life
How Great Is Your Name; Gratitude

Live Stream @ 10am Sunday: [Facebook](#) & [YouTube](#)

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

Grace Community Church

4001 Brooken Hill Dr. / Fort Smith, AR 72908 / 479.646.1177

Email: contact@gracefs.com / Office Hours: 9-5 Monday-Thursday

Website: www.gracefs.com

*Grace Community Church exists for the glory of God,
to make visible the kingdom of God, and
to declare the grace of God to all the world.*

KIDS MINISTRY



Jr. Kids: Infants—PreK

Contact: [Christine Turpin](#)



Kids Church K-5th Grade

Contact: [Sarah Reykers](#)

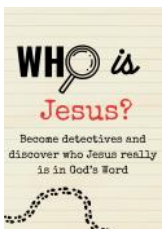


Jr. Kids January Theme: Finger Painting with God

NEW!

With just paint and their little fingers, our kiddos can create amazing pictures from their own imaginations. With just his voice, God created the world -- the sky, the animals, and each of THEM! Each week, toddlers and preschoolers will get hands-on as they finger paint their way through the creation story, learning about God's world in a fun, creative, and kid-centered way!

Memory Verse: "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth." Genesis 1:1



Kids Church K-5th Grade Kids Ministry is bigger and better than ever in 2026!

NEW!

We are kicking off the New Year learning about prayer and Who Jesus is. We will become detectives and discover who Jesus really is in God's word by answering questions and collecting clues. What will we discover about Jesus?

K-5th Grade—Coming in February!!

NEW!

For the girls: Painting and Pastries

For the boys: Nerf Wars and Nachos

More info coming soon!



VBS — Right Around the Corner!

NEW!

Are you ready to get Messy?

Mark your calendars for June 7-10.

Volunteer opportunities coming soon.

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...two nights at [Camp Siloam](#). Full camp details and sign ups can be found [HERE](#). Contact [Sarah Reyers](#) with questions.

DASH & FM

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

Contact [Dana](#) For DASH and FM

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



Join Us on Wednesday Evenings in 2026!

During the school year, DASH and FM meet routinely every Wednesday from 6-7:30pm. We have dinner, games, worship, biblical lessons, and small groups. Small groups are split by grade level and male/female.

Confirmation Class

Begins Sunday, January 11, 9:30am, Student Ministry Bldg

If you did not get signed up yet, please contact Dana immediately. If you have already registered, Dana will be sending you info with all the necessary info.

**DASH
SUMMER CAMP**

Upcoming 6th-8th graders ✓
June 14-17, 2026
Encounter Cove, MO
Lake of the Ozarks

For more info →  → to Sign up

Sign up deadline Nov. 30th
Spots are Limited. Sign up soon!
\$100 deposit

**DASH
SUMMER CAMP**

Total Cost: \$500
Lots of Fundraising opportunities

High-energy worship
Powerful messages
Crazy fun activities and games
New friendships
Unforgettable memories
A chance to grow deeper in faith and discover who God created you to be

Payment Installment Deadlines:
Nov 30-----Dec 31-----Jan 31-----Mar 31-----May 31

**HIGH SCHOOL
SUMMER
CAMP.**

Upcoming 9th graders - graduated seniors

JUNE 29-JULY 4, 2026
Cleveland, TN,

SIGN UP DEADLINE
NOVEMBER 30TH TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT \$100



Scan the QR code to sign up or get more information

SPOTS ARE LIMITED
SIGN UP EARLY!

**HIGH SCHOOL
SUMMER
CAMP.**

Total Camp Cost: \$500
We'll be doing fundraisers to lower the cost for everyone who participates!

WHY YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THIS CAMP:

- An awe-inspiring week in Cleveland, TN
- Life changing messages
- Powerful worship
- Crazy fun with students from across the country
- A chance to grow in faith, build friendships, and discover what God has next for you.

Payment Installment Deadlines:
Nov 30-----Dec 31-----Jan 31-----Mar 31-----May 31

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.

EVENTS



In the Garden
Thursday, January 15
6-7:30pm
Worship Center

Women are invited to an evening of worship, testimony, and sweet fellowship. Come enjoy a shared meal, lift your heart in worship, and be encouraged by the testimony of Debbie Goux. We want to start the year off acknowledging God's faithfulness as we gather together in community. Deadline to sign up is Thursday, January 8. Childcare is available upon request. Contact [Reagan Newell](#) with any questions!



Finishing Strong:
Making Final Plans
Sunday, January 25
2-3:30pm
Activity Center

While most people avoid thinking about their death and funeral plans, the bible actually says we gain wisdom by considering the number of our days. I (pastor Jeff) work with lots of families at the moment of death, and there are some clear things that make death and dying a powerful witness to God's love and which bless your family in that moment. Join me as we think through how you can prepare to love your family well in your death. We will look at practical things that everyone needs to have in place for when they die--from a living will to songs for the funeral service. Register [HERE](#).



IF: One Night
Friday, February 27
5:30-10pm
Grace Worship Center

IF: One Night is a gathering of Christian women from all over the country. Some will join in person in Dallas, while the rest are connected virtually! This evening will be filled with worship, teaching, and connection with women from Grace. Dinner will be provided! If you have any questions contact [Reagan Newell](#).

List of Confirmed Speakers:

- Jennie Allen
- Christine Caine
- Francis Chan
- Lauren Chandler
- Jada Edwards
- Davy Flowers
- Layla de la Garza

Fee for IF: One Night is \$10. Register [HERE](#).

SERVE

Contact [Michelle Thomas](#) for more information on local mission efforts.

Contact [Kathleen Halliburton](#) for more information on mission efforts outside of our community.



Blood Drive

Sunday, January 11

8:30am-noon, Lobby



Your gift of blood does more than save lives—it lifts families, inspires patients, and restores HOPE when it's needed most. This particular blood drive will help Millie, a 5-year old fighting leukemia. When donors give blood on Millie's behalf between Dec26–Jan12, OBI will bless her family with \$5,000 to help give them

hope in 2026. To hear Millie's story first hand, click [HERE](#). To sign up in advance for a timeslot on Sunday, January 11, click [HERE](#).

CORRECTION



Congratulations **Scott Wallace**!

Scott is the "real" **GetREAL Volunteer of the Year!** What does **Scott** do? ASK him! Maybe you can help, too. Thank you, **Scott**, and to our numerous Local Community Partner volunteers that help make the Kingdom of God visible to others. Click [HERE](#) for more information on the

GetREAL ministry.



VBS "Wish List"

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.



Nicaragua Teams Mission Trip

We have opened the dates for Team 3 on August 1-8 and will add a Team 4 the following week if needed. If you are

interested in going, please don't wait to [sign up](#). We will be doing a few fundraisers to help offset costs and scholarship assistance is available. If you aren't interested in going on the trip but want to be a part of someone's story, contact Kathleen to discuss the possibilities. Please pray for our Teams, the people still considering going, the families in Nicaragua that we will be serving and for the El Porvenir staff. Please contact [Kathleen](#) if you have any questions.

OTHER



Refresh Conference

Friday, January 30

1:30-8pm

Saturday, January 31

8:30am-12noon

Join us for a powerful time of worship, prayer, teaching, and fellowship as we gather for The Refresh Conference—an event for individuals and churches longing for an awakening to Christ and the life-giving power of the Holy Spirit.

Featured Speakers:

J.D. Walt — Founder and Sower-in-Chief of Seedbed Publishing and the primary author of the Wake Up Call devotional.

Andrew Forrest — Senior Pastor of Asbury Church in Tulsa, OK

You'll also get a preview of the 2025 New Room Conference, and speakers will share select teachings from the 2025 Seedbed Conference.

Conference is held at Christ Church, 4201 N. Shiloh Drive, Fayetteville, AR 72703. Cost: \$30 adults, \$20 students. Register [HERE](#).

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.

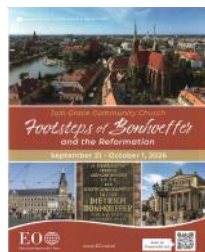
[Footsteps of Bonhoeffer & the Reformation](#)

(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!

Full deposit required. Savings are deducted from the balance.

(11 Days in Germany & Poland)



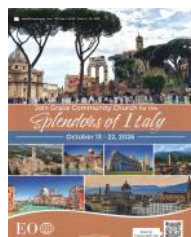
[Splendors of Italy](#)

(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!

Full deposit required. Savings are deducted from the balance.

(10 Days in Italy)



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
Christians in Nigeria
Holiday Travelers

Grace Families

Olivia McManus (Mullikin)
Young Adults Traveling to Passion 2026

Grace Friends

Ron Haines
Wyatt Cox
Bobby Jones
Father addicted to alcohol

Sympathies

Donna Sharp and family
(death of her husband Jim)

MENTAL HEALTH MINISTRY



[Meet Our Team](#)

[Mental Health Resources](#)

[Mental Health Page](#)

