

Grace Weekly Email Update

July 29, 2026

Message from JD Cunny (Associate Pastor)



Back to School... Back to Community

As summer begins to wind down, many families are preparing for a new school year. The return to school often brings a welcome rhythm back to our schedules. As calendars begin to fill with homework, practices, and activities, it is also a great time to reconnect with your church family and become more involved in the life of Grace.

Grace Ministry Expo & Blessing of the Backpacks Sunday, August 9

Grace will host our very own Ministry Expo before and after each service. Ministry leaders will be available to answer questions, share information, and help you discover opportunities to connect, grow, and serve.

The Expo will focus on three key areas: Group Studies, Connecting Ministries and Serve Opportunities. Whether you are interested in joining a group, serving on a ministry team, building new relationships, or simply learning more about what God is doing at Grace, this is a great place to begin.

We will also have our Blessing of the Backpacks during both the 9:30 AM and 11:00 AM services. Students of all ages are invited to bring their backpacks as we pray over them and the upcoming school year. Whether they are starting preschool, elementary school, middle school, high school, or college, we want to send them into the year covered in prayer. (Kids will still check in to Kids Church just as they normally do on this particular Sunday.)

Join us on August 9 as we pray for our students, reconnect as a church family, and discover new ways to get involved at Grace.

God Bless,

JD

WORSHIP SERVICE — August 2 & 3

Traditional (8:30am Sunday)

Hymns: My Jesus, My Savior
 In The Garden

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

Songs: So So Good; What He's Done
 Let It Be Jesus; Who You Say I Am

Live Stream @ 9:30am 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

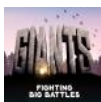
*Grace Community Church exists for the glory of God,
to make visible the kingdom of God, and
to declare the grace of God to all the world.*

KIDS MINISTRY

Jr. Kids: Infants—PreK
Kids Church K-5th Grade

Contact: [Jessica Cochenour](#)

Contact: [Sarah Reykers](#)



Jr. Kids Theme: Our series for summer is GIANTS!

We face many Giants in life, like Loneliness, Fear, and Shame. But our God is greater than them all. As the life of David shows us, when we put our Faith, Hope and Love in God, He will give us the power to defeat any giant.

Memory verse: "I am sure that your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life. And I will live in the house of the Lord forever." Psalm 23:6



**Kids Church K-5th Grade: Simply Loved—
Where Kids Experience God's Greatest Gift**



**Blessing of the Backpacks
Sunday, August 9, 9:30 & 11am**

Students are invited to bring their backpacks to church as we pray over them and the upcoming school year.

Whether they're starting preschool, elementary school, middle school, high school, or college, we want to send them into the year covered in prayer.

Kids will still check into kids church just like they normally do!

Questions? Feel free to contact our Kids Minister, [Sarah](#).



Launch-The Starting Point

Kids 1st-5th Grades

(New Wednesday Night Program)

Starting August 19, 6-7:30pm

Includes dinner, games and a deeper

dive into the Bible.

Adult Volunteers Needed for New Wednesday Night Program

Sarah is looking for adults to help with Wednesday Night Launch. If you feel lead to help with kids ministry, please reach out to [Sarah](#) for more details. 479-414-2071 or sarah@gracefs.com.



Summer Calendar

**August 14: Glow Night
(3rd-5th grade) sign up!**

August 19: Launch Begins

**August 28: Fizz, Foam, & Fun
(K-2nd grade) sign up!**

Scan here for more info and
sign ups! Or go to our website
gracefs.com



DASH & FM

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

Contact [Dana](#) For DASH and FM

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



Summer Fun Happening NOW

Click [HERE](#) for full details of summer activities.

[Girls' Swim Party](#)

TONIGHT, Wednesday, July 29, 6-8pm
(contact [Dana](#) for location & directions)

Feed the Future, Friday, July 31, 10am (Service Project)

Meet at the church @ 9:00am

We will work @ the Clearinghouse from 10-11 packing bins for the community's backpack program. All students will get service hours and the first 15 that sign up will get a free Tshirt. Sign up [HERE](#).

Let's go to lunch together afterward.



Color Wars with ALL YOUTH

6th-12th Grade

Sunday, August 9, **6-8:30pm**

Update

Grace Campus

Come dressed in clothes you don't mind getting messy as you compete in team challenges, games, and lots of laughs. Bring your friends and get ready for an unforgettable afternoon of fun!

CONNECT

Contact [JD Cunny](#) for any questions.

Click [HERE](#) for details of ON-GOING GROUPS

- Upper Room (Women) **Aug 5, 19**
- By Hook, Needle & Craft (Women/Men) **Aug 6, 20**
- Men's Fellowship Lunch (Men) **Aug 6**
- Women's Lunch (Women) 2nd Thursdays, **Aug 13** (see *more info below in Event section*)

EVENTS



Grace Ministry Expo, Sunday, August 9 9-noon, Grace Lobby

Nearly everyone has attended a job fair or trade show where booths are set up to share information and promote different opportunities.

As summer winds down and schedules become more predictable, this event will help you discover upcoming activities, Bible studies, ways to connect, and opportunities to serve both at Grace and throughout our community.

The Grace Ministry Expo will focus on three key areas:

Group Studies, Connecting Ministries, and Serve Opportunities. Come explore the many ways you can get involved, build relationships, and take your next step at Grace. For questions, contact [JD](#) or [Reagan Newell](#).



Monthly Ladies Lunch

Thursday, August 13, noon-1p

The Egg of Fort Smith

Second Thursdays, No Need to Sign Up. More Info [HERE](#).



Reel Mentorship

Saturday, August 22

7:15am leave (8-10am fishing)

11:00am lunch (Activity Center)

Boys ages 8–14, or 4th–8th grade

Check out details & register [HERE](#).



Men's Fish Fry, Tuesday, Aug 25

6-7:30pm, Student Ministry Blds

Check out full details and to register [HERE](#).



Selah Weekend, Church-Wide Retreat (Friday—Sunday), October 2-4 Ozark Natural Science Center, Huntsville, AR

Click [HERE](#) for details and sign-ups.

SERVE

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

Ministry Partner “the CALL” Seeking Volunteers To Serve Our Community

Volunteer Orientation, Thursday, July 30, 6:30-7:30pm

Volunteer Orientation is a time to tour The CALL's facility, learn about volunteer teams, sign paperwork, and allow us to hear from you on what makes you passionate about volunteering.

Contact our church's Local Mission Liaison [Jeanne Harvey](#) for more information.

Link to event [HERE](#).



Community Rescue Mission Posts “Wish List” Items

This is a local mission we support. They have an ongoing wish list to which you can contribute any time. Please make your donations at the following location and times:

Donation Drop Off: Monday-Friday, 8:30am-5:00pm, 310 N F Street, Fort Smith, AR 72901. For questions regarding shelter needs or donations, please call 479-434-2155 or go to their [website](#).

Ongoing Needs Wish List

Food Service

Water Bottles
Coffee, Tea, Kool-Aid, Juice
Disposable Cups & Plates
Plastic Cups & Silverware
Trash Bags
Serving Gloves
Paper Towels/Napkins
Dish Towels
Aluminum Foil
Sponges/Scrub Pads

Family Needs

Diapers Sizes 1-5
Children's Tylenol or Motrin
Liquid Laundry Detergent
Men's Shoes in all sizes
New Bath Towels
New Twin Comforters
New Pillows
New Twin Sheet Sets (*we will accept gently used sets*)
Laundry Baskets
Baby/Kids Shampoo

Cleaning Supplies

Liquid Hand Soap
Pine-Sol or Fabuloso
Antibacterial Hand Sanitizer
Clorox Wipes
Multi-Surface Cleaning Sprays
Air Fresheners
Bleach
Sponges
Mops and Mop Buckets

Hygiene Needs

Toilet Paper
Bar Soap
Men's Deodorant
Women's Deodorant
Hair Brushes
Tooth Brushes
Tooth Paste
Peroxide
Ibuprofen
First Aid Kits
Band Aids
Razors

Office Supplies

410A printer ink M477fnw
Letter Size Paper
Pens
Working Computers
Letter Labels
Clip Boards
Sticky Notes
Legal Pads
Gift Cards or Coupons for Office Supplies

SERVE

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

Nicaragua Team 3 to Serve in El Cebollin, Aug 1-8

The team will be building latrines and fuel efficient stoves. Please keep our team, El Cebollin and the El Porvenir staff in your prayers.

Earlier this summer!

Allison Butler
Carol & Mike Kirby
DeVonne & John Grizzle
Doc Acklin
Rick Ralston
Olivia McManus
Gwen Mason
Nicole Germaine
Mary Jo Chown
Kathleen Halliburton



Nicaragua Mission Trip Informational Lunch

Mark your calendars for Sunday, September 20, we will have an informational lunch and announce our dates for trips in 2027. For more details or information, contact [Kathleen](#).

LAST SUNDAY!!!!

Youth-Led Worship

Baptisms



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
Those struggling with job layoffs

Grace Families

Nicaragua Team 3 (see serve section for names)
Vicki Brixey
Jessica Simpson
Heather England
Kelli Cheek
Ann Synoground
Dana Higgins-Davis
Emma Lakin

Grace Friends

Logan Flanagan
Laura Coleman
Bill Chown
Maggie Lahtinen

MENTAL HEALTH MINISTRY

Contact [Rick](#) for more information.



[Meet Our Team](#)
[Mental Health Resources](#)
[Mental Health Page](#)

OTHER



Grace Place Preschool Has Openings in PreK

There are a few spots left in the PreK classroom for the 2026-2027 school year. Please contact Grace Place to start the enrollment process today!

479-646-6503 or graceplace@gracefs.com