

Grace Weekly Email Update

8-5-2026

Message from Pastor Jeff



If you are interested in a small group or about other opportunities to connect or serve, stop by the tables in the lobby this Sunday and see what's available.

As you worship, connect, serve, pray, and give, our church grows in our witness to the glory of God, the kingdom of God, and the grace of God.

In two weeks, we'll be starting a new series of messages on Daniel. Daniel is all about how people of faith engage with the culture and politics in which they find themselves. If you are the kind that likes to be prepared, I'd suggest three things.

1. Watch the bible [project video](#) on Daniel.

2. Begin reading Daniel on your own. Don't try to understand everything--just get a sense of the story and how it might speak to our lives today.

3. If you want a deep dive in how followers of Jesus are to live without falling into the traps of complete disengagement from culture and politics or Christian nationalism, I'd suggest two books: "Jesus and the Powers" by NT Wright and Michael Bird and "The Religion of American Greatness" by Paul Miller.

We are getting closer to our first ever [church wide campout](#). Many of us will be in a tent, but there are a few limited rooms available. If a weekend of fun activities with others, sitting by a campfire, outdoor worship, and relaxation sounds good to you, check it out.

May you find great joy this week in working what God has worked in you by His power and His grace!

Jeff



Full prayer request listing on last page.

Grace Families

Emma Lakin
Families Struggling
Richard Snow
Rusty Jones
Janice Winford
Vicki Brixey
Len Dollar
Jessica Simpson
Heather England
Kelli Cheek
Ann Synoground
Dana Higgins-Davis

Nicaragua Team 3

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

WORSHIP SERVICE

August 9 & 10

Traditional (8:30am Sunday)

Hymns: There's Within My Heart A Melody
 Take The Name of Jesus With You

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

Songs: So So Good; I've Witnessed It
 He Who Is To Come; Death Was Arrested

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

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

DASH & FM

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

Contact [Dana](#) For DASH and FM

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



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!

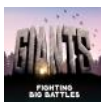
**Wednesday Evening Youth
is BACK on August 19!**

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.



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



Building Strong Foundations (For PARENTS)
Sunday, August 30, 4-6pm, Activity Center
(See Event Section for details.)

NEW!

NEW!

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)



Sermon Recap Groups (click [HERE](#) for more info)

1. Sunday mornings following the 8:30 service in the Grace Place meeting room (kids wing). Men & Women
2. Men's group. Wednesdays, 6pm, Student Ministry building.

Ephesians Ladies Group (*Erin DeLassus, Facilitator*)

1. Tuesday mornings, August 18-October 13, 10-11:45am, Activity Center, Click [HERE](#) for more info and to register.
2. Wednesday evenings, August 19-October 14, 5:45-7:45pm, Activity Center. Click [HERE](#) for more info and to register.

Alpha at Grace (11 Weeks)

(*Christine Ralston & Doc Aklin, Facilitators*)

Tuesdays, September 8-November 17, 6-7:45pm, Activity Center. For full information and to sign up, click [HERE](#).

Intentional Prayer: Psalms, Saints, Supplication & Scripture (*Kathryn O'Brien, Facilitator*)

Wednesday mornings, September 9-October 7 (5 weeks), Activity Center. Click [HERE](#) for more info and to register.

Becoming Disciples (*Kathryn O'Brien, Facilitator*)

Two Opportunities:

1. Wednesday evenings: 6-8pm, Sept. 16-Nov. 11
Kids Wing/Ezra Room
Childcare **is available** on Wednesday evenings.
 2. Thursday mornings: 9:30-11:30am, Sept. 17-Nov. 12
Activity Center
Childcare **is not available** on Thursday mornings.
- Click [HERE](#) for more info and to register for either class.

The Temple Project (*Brandon Morrison, Facilitator*)

Strengthening the Body, Renewing the Mind

Tuesdays 6-7pm, September 15-October 17, (7 weeks)

Church Office Conference Room

Click [HERE](#) for more info and to register.

New Connections Class

(*Staci Moore & Amy Sweeten, Facilitators*)

Sundays, September 20 (6 weeks), 11am-noon, Church Office. Click [HERE](#) for more info and to register.

EVENTS—August



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 Bldg

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



Building Strong Foundations

Sunday, August 30, 4-6pm

Activity Center

(For parents of elementary age kids)

Join us for Starting Strong: A Back-to-School Parent Night for parents of elementary-age children. As a new school year begins, we want to help families think intentionally about their children's mental, physical, and spiritual health.

We will talk about practical ways to support kids through back-to-school emotions, build healthy routines at home, and disciple our children in everyday moments. Parents will leave with simple tools for prayer, Scripture, family rhythms, screen-time boundaries, sleep routines, and emotional check-ins.

This night is designed to encourage and equip parents as we help our children begin the school year rooted in Christ and ready to thrive.

SERVE

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



Our Community Partners

Do you recognize these local and national mission's logos and know what they do for our community? Learn more about them and what you can do to help serve the community at the Ministry Expo Sunday, August 9. See our church [website](#) for more information and details!



Feed the Future by Community Services Clearinghouse

We had two generous groups that spent their time, energy, and effort packing bags of food for the Backpack program! Our youth group also does this every month. Please thank [Dana Higgins-Davis](#) for supporting our youth and their growth in Christ. [Chuck Goux](#) is our Serve Team Liaison that works closely with the CSC. Ask them how you can help!



Wednesday Night Bible Study Group

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 Serving in El Cebollin, Aug 1-8

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

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](#).



Cooling Stations and Information For Those In Need

These local mission groups provide refuge from the heat for those in need. Please share!

Hope Campus

Executive Director: Kasey Wilson

Location: 301 South E Street in Fort Smith (behind the OK Foods murals)

Serves as a cooling station whenever temperatures exceed 95 degrees. They open their TV room and, when needed, their cafeteria to provide a safe, air-conditioned place for individuals to escape the extreme heat. They have plenty of space and welcome anyone needing relief from the high temperatures if they are 18 or older.

Salvation Army

Captains: Captain Dakarai Darby and

Captain Dominique Darby

Location: 301 North 6th Street

Drop-in cooling station on extreme heat days during office hours for anyone in need. Office hours are from 9am-12pm and 1pm-4pm (they are closed from 12pm-1pm), Monday-Friday, and 9am-12pm on Fridays.

Next Step Homeless Services

Executive Director: Sharon Chapman

Location: 123 North 6th Street

Day room where anyone in need can go to get out of the heat. They are open from 8am-3pm, Monday through Friday.

