



A member church of Grace Presbytery  
 and the Presbyterian Church (USA)

November 2009 • Volume 25, No. 11

***The seeds have been planted ...***

The Stewardship Ministry would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who helped make our 2009 Stewardship Fair a huge success! The entire church was a beehive of activity. Each ministry obviously had taken much time to prepare their “booths” and were able to present their information to a steady flow of interested congregants. The potluck dinner was delicious! Our featured speaker, Rev. Karl Travis, was both entertaining and inspirational. Door prizes were awarded, and everyone pitched in to help clean and set up the sanctuary in record time. It could not have been a



*We are called by the Holy Spirit into a loving relationship with Jesus Christ, glorifying God, growing in faith, serving others, and sharing the good news of Jesus Christ.*

more perfect event to close out our month focusing on Stewardship.

Since the weekend of the Stewardship Fair, both Paula Bauerle and Claire Whinery have blessed us with their unique Stewardship stories. Every month throughout this next year, a member of the congregation will share their Stewardship story in worship. These stories are intended to help all of us at Grace realize how important our time and talents are to God and to this church. Continue to pray about what gifts you have to offer.



***Christmas is coming to Grace!***

**GRACE ADVENT FESTIVAL**

**Saturday, December 5th**

**Hanging of the Greens 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.**

*(Bring ladders ... and be ready to “deck the halls!”)*

**Carol Singing 4:30 - 5:00 p.m.**

*(Love to sing? Here’s your opportunity!)*

**Potluck Soup/Chili Supper 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.**

*(Love to eat? Bring soup, chili or a dessert to share!)*

**Children's/Youth Program 6:00 p.m.**





## From the Pastor

Dear Grace Friends –

*I believe this is the 30th time I have been privileged to write the “pastor’s column” for the GraceVine and for Grace Presbyterian Church. November 15 will be our last time to worship together in this place, and on November 18 I will begin serving as the Interim Pastor at St. Philip Presbyterian Church in Hurst.*

*As I leave I take many wonderful memories and experiences with me – both hours of worship plus our joyful unity services, all kinds of classes and officer training, 31 regular Session meetings plus some others, baptisms and funerals, times of great joy and great sorrow, and so many treasured relationships. I am particularly proud to be an interpreter of the work done under the NEW DAY Ministries umbrella and pray for much success in these ventures as you continue to move toward 501c3 status.*

*I will watch with great interest (and maybe even a bit of pride) to see how God’s plan for you and your ministry unfolds into the future. I do give thanks to our God for you and I will hold you in my heart.*

*Elizabeth Johnson Pense  
Interim Pastor*

### Grace Presbyterian Church Staff:

Rev. Elizabeth Johnson Pense,  
Interim Pastor  
pastor@gpcarlington.org

Dianne Priest,  
Administrative Assistant  
office@gpcarlington.org

Gehlin Menti, Director of Music  
gmentiatt@att.net

Sheryl Machen, Youth Director  
s.machen@yahoo.com

GraceVine Information:  
gracevine@gpcarlington.org

Becky Couch & Valerie Knox  
co-editors

Leslie Seggelink  
Roving Reporter

- Deadline for submission of articles and photos is the 15th of each month.
- All photos should be digital in either .tif or .jpg format(s).
- Articles/information may be submitted through email and/or MS Word document.

### Join us in thanking Rev. Betsy Pense!

Mark your calendars for a reception to express appreciation for Reverend Elizabeth Johnson Pense (Betsy) on Sunday, November 15th between services. A basket to collect cards will be available.



### An opportunity to add beauty to our sanctuary!

God has blessed this congregation in so many ways. One of our newest blessings is seed money for candelabra to enhance the sanctuary. A donation was received by the church, with a request that it be used toward the purchase of two “Seven

Lite Floor Candelabra” for weddings and other special celebrations to add beauty and soft lighting. The Worship Ministry and Session approved the request, and anyone wishing to donate to this fund may do so by designating on their check or envelope. We are so blessed to have such generous givers! Won’t you help to add to the Glory of God and the beauty of our worship?



## SESSION BRIEFS

October 13, 2009

### Stated Meeting

#### The Session:

- discussed the upcoming Session Retreat on October 25 and the need for training to understand financial statements.
- referred/deferred to the Personnel Ministry a discussion of collecting offerings for staff Christmas bonuses.
- received a report from the Officer Nominating Ministry naming Frank Bauerle, Brian Musfeldt, Louie Nash and Betty Sicks as Serving Elder Nominees for the Class of 2013.
- elected Bill Irwin and Betty Sicks as Presbytery Commissioners for the November 14 meeting of Grace Presbytery. Ron Musfeldt was elected as alternate.
- received a report from Ron Musfeldt on the September Regional Presbytery meeting.
- agreed to meet with the presbytery Committee on Ministry (COM) on November 10 for a COM Triennial visit.
- declined a request by the Gideons to speak to the congregation during a worship service or Sunday school.
- approved a \$25.00 gift to the Gideons from the Memorial Fund 2.700.220.

- ratified a passing email vote of September 20 to renew property and casualty insurance coverage with UCCIB.
- ratified a passing email vote of October 7 to set a Congregational Meeting on October 25 at 10:30 a.m. for the purpose of electing church officers.
- approved Youth participation in Operation Christmas Child.
- accepted a proposal to repair the leaking flat roof and directed Administration Ministry to move forward with the repairs.
- adopted a policy change to the Child Protection Policy to change the required training interval from one year to two years.
- requested that the Communication Ministry provide cost estimates for wireless internet service within the Grace facility.
- adopted a second Child Protection Policy change to allow publication of youth and children photographs with written approval from parents or if faces are not visible. No additional identifying infor-

mation will be allowed.

#### Commendations:

Barb McAllister for her outstanding work as coordinator of the Stewardship Fair.

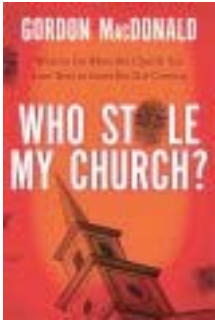
Howard Livingston for his assistance in repairing the electrical service to the new sign.

John Conn for his contribution of time and resources to serve Mollie's Burgers at Church Under the Bridge with the youth.

On Monday, October 19, 2009 the Session elected the current Officer Nominating Ministry to serve as the Interim (Temporary) Pastor Nominating Ministry. Initial contacts have been made with Grace Presbytery and the required TRC paperwork has been drafted, approved by Session, and submitted. Members of this ministry are Mike McCoy, Jim Juengerman, Kathy Bayona, Martha Kinard, and Karen Ellen Anderson.



## New books to make you think as we leaf through Autumn

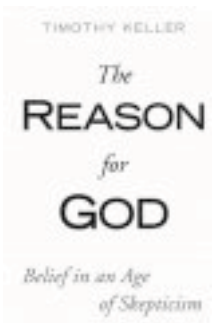


***Who Stole My Church? What to Do When the Church You Love Tries to Enter the Twenty-first Century*** By Gordon MacDonald

MacDonald has written himself into a fictional church in a New England town. This fellowship is at a tipping point. Many of the founders are facing a decision to either accept the changes occurring in their church or leave and find something more traditional. Following these men and women on their journey will help you understand your own church and your role in it in new and enlightening ways.

***Un Christian: What a New Generation Really Thinks About Christianity ... And Why It Matters*** by David Kinnaman and Gabe Lyons

Groundbreaking research into the perceptions of sixteen to twenty-nine-year olds reveals that Christians have taken several giant steps backward in one of their most important assignments. The surprising details of the study, commissioned by Fermi Project and conducted by The Barna Group, are presented with uncompromising honesty in unChristian. Find out why these negative perceptions exist, learn how to reverse them in a Christlike manner, and discover practical examples of how Christians can positively contribute to culture.



***The Reason for God: Belief in an Age of Skepticism*** by Timothy Keller, pastor of Redeemer Presbyterian Church in Manhattan

*Why does God allow suffering in the World? How could a loving God send people to Hell? Why have so many wars been fought in the name of God?* These are just a few of the questions and doubts even ardent believers wrestle with today. In the *Reason for God*, he single-handedly dismantles each of those questions. Keller uses literature, philosophy, real-life conversations, and reasoning to explain how faith in a Christian God is a soundly rational belief, held by thoughtful people of intellectual integrity with a deep compassion for those who truly want to know the truth. Writing for atheists, agnostics, and skeptics, Keller also provides an

intelligent platform on which true believers can stand their ground when bombarded by the backlash to religion created by the Age of Skepticism. *The Reason for God* challenges such ideology at its core and points to the true path and purpose of Christianity.

*"Tim Keller's ministry in New York City is leading a generation of seekers and skeptics toward belief in God. I thank God for him"* Billy Graham

***Saving Jesus from the Church: How to Stop Worshiping Christ and Start Following Jesus***

by Robin R. Meyers

Meyers takes the best of biblical scholarship and recasts these core Christian concepts to exhort the church to pursue an alternative vision of the Christian life:

\* Jesus as *Teacher*, not Savior \* Christianity as *Compassion*, not Condemnation \* Prosperity as *Dangerous*, not Divine \* Discipleship as *Obedience*, not Control \* Religion as *Relationship*, not Righteousness. This is not a call to the church to move to the far left or to try something brand new. Rather, it is the recovery of something very old. *Saving Jesus from the Church* shows us what it means to be a Christian and how to follow Jesus' teachings today.



## From the Library. . . .



### COOKBOOKS FOR SALE!! COOKBOOKS FOR SALE!!!!

We still have about 175 cookbooks for sale! If you can help us sell them, we would be most grateful. If you have friends through book clubs, social clubs, quilting clubs, school friends, craft fairs, etc., please try to sell them as they will make wonderful Christmas presents. Now that things have slowed down a bit, through the month of November, we will not be selling in the Narthex. If you need to purchase cookbooks, just contact us and we will be happy to get the books to you. If you have a business and would like to display the cookbooks, we will also be happy to set that up for you. We have paid off the publishing costs and the money we make from here on out will go directly to the library at Grace!

p.s. *We don't want to have an ANGRY chef, now do we?*

### Donations:

*Let's Roll* by Lisa Beamer donated by Jim and Joan Smith

*Your Child's Strength* by Jennifer Fox donated by Tom Whinery

*Where the Wild Things Are* by Maurice Sendak donated in honor of the birth of Tyler Nicholas Couch from the Mentis.

6 books donated by Mary Steele which includes:

- \* Time/Life book of *The World's Greatest Religions*
- \* *To Be the First*
- \* *Soul Survivor* by Philip Yancey
- \* *The Jesus I Never Knew* by Philip Yancey
- \* *Through the Valley*

## ANNIVERSARIES

Glenn and Betsy Pense	11-01
Ron and Juliette Westphal	11-17
Harold and Kim Walker	11-29

## BIRTHDAYS

Ches Whinery	11-01	Michelle Johnson	11-15
Graham Whinery	11-01	Hector Bayona	11-16
Samantha Hutto	11-03	Andrea Hutto	11-16
Joshua Bauerle	11-04	Roger Perez	11-16
Melinda Kinkel	11-05	Brittany Bayless	11-17
Martha Kinard	11-08	Brian Musfeldt	11-17
Paige Curtis	11-09	Janie Whinery	11-18
John Sutton	11-09	Bill Faktor	11-24
Brittney Bradley	11-12	Becky Menti	11-24
Rosemary Joiner	11-12	Christopher Athon	11-26
Carol Bogart	11-13	Lauren Black	11-29
Mary Cash	11-13	Travis Waggoner	11-30
Jim Fuquay	11-13		



# Serving at Grace



## Love One Another As I Have Loved You ...

In John 15:12, Jesus says, "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you." Loving and caring for one another is not just the pastor's job - it's something Jesus calls us all to do! Stephen Ministry is a ministry in which people with special gifts for caring ministry can put those gifts to use in an organized way, bringing Jesus' love and care to those who most need it.

If you - or someone you know - are going through a difficult time, contact our Stephen Leader about Stephen Ministry. Our Stephen Ministers are ready to provide you with focused, confidential, one-to-one Christian care and to help you experience the healing power of Christ's love in your life.

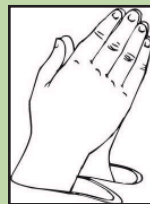
Contact Louie Nash 817-538-5755 or [louie.nash@sidehike.net](mailto:louie.nash@sidehike.net)

## NEW DAY and LIGHTT ... We can ALL be a part of these vital ministries

The need is growing and our arms are reaching further to help feed and nourish God's children in the surrounding communities. Here is what we did in September thanks to you:

80 Bags to Venture High School  
16 Bags to Workman  
5 Bags to Timberview  
5 Bags to Mansfield Alternative School  
5 Bags to Nurse Family Partnerships  
77 Snacks, juice, milk and fresh fruit to Venture  
8 Boxes of Baby Food  
Diapers  
Bags of lotions, shampoo, tooth brushes, etc

Joan B Smith



To activate the Grace Presbyterian Church Prayer Chain:

- Phone John Matson at 817-465-0014
- Email [johnmatson@tx.rr.com](mailto:johnmatson@tx.rr.com)
- Go online at [www.gpcarlington.org](http://www.gpcarlington.org) using the prayer chain link

## Helping our children understand God's love!

Christian Education will be completing the *What You Do Best in the Body of Christ* curriculum at the end of October. In November the children will continue with the We Believe program for the rest of the Sunday School year. Preparation for the Christmas Program will also begin in November.

The children mailed a recent letter to Roseangelia and will be sending a Christmas greeting soon. CE needs teaching volunteers! Also, we want to start a sewing ministry. There are several volunteers, we would welcome anyone who wants to join this fun ministry.





## *Yarn Ministry ...* **So much yarn!** **So much fun!**

Our ministry grows with each meeting and we are thankful for the cheerful hearts and busy hands. Erma Rebber is our newest yarn devotee and she is a whiz at scarves! Many thanks go to Erma, Barb McAllister and Terry Hendricks for the beautiful scarves they created that were given to our friends visiting from Romania. It is such a joy to know that God is using us to reach across the globe with our message that "Love Matters."

We are considering another change in our meeting schedule. Many of our members have expressed an interest in having weekly opportunities to meet and work on our projects. To accommodate as many busy schedules as possible, and to make it easy to remember, we would like to begin meeting **three Tuesday evenings each month at 7:00 p.m.** (The third Tuesday is reserved for Women of Grace General Meetings.) We need your feedback on this change, so please e-mail Becky Couch (becky.couch@tx.rr.com) or catch her at church to let her know what your thoughts are.

**Our November meetings will be:  
Nov. 3, Nov. 10, and Nov. 24.**

## *Women of Grace ...* **We are busy, busy, busy with activities for everyone!**

If you have not had an opportunity to join us for one of the many Women of Grace activities, you are missing out on great fun and fellowship! In order to allow even more women to attend our General Meetings each month, **we are changing the date to the third Tuesday of each month.** Our goal this year is to make a telephone call to the women of the church a few days before these meetings in order to personally invite them and remind them of the day, time and what activity is scheduled. We do not want YOU to be missed!

Most of our meetings this year will focus on specific mission opportunities that we have not tried before. Our October meeting was tremendous fun! Sixteen women spent the evening creating a "**hug in a box**" for each of the 25 current college students for whom we have addresses.

These "hugs" consisted of things every college kid needs: note pads, band-aids, cocoa mixes, popcorn, candy, handwritten notes ... and best of all, homemade cookies! We want these young people to know they are thought of often and loved by their church. The evening was filled with laughter and a flurry of activity and even a little bit of healthy food for ourselves! At this meeting we voted to distribute money collected from our fundraisers last year. Four Arlington charities traditionally benefit from any fundraising we do: Meals on Wheels, Safe Haven, Arlington Life Shelter and Presbyterian Children's Home.



Our November meeting will be even more fun ... and we need lots of hands to help us with this one! We will be making polar **fleece lap-sized blankets** for the Meals on Wheels folks. The fleece has been purchase, and now we need ladies who can tie knots! Lots of knots! Erma Rebber has even volunteered to knit several lap blankets because she cannot come to our meeting that night! **Please join us on Tuesday, November 17 at 7:00 p.m. at the church.**

It is not too early to put our annual **Christmas Ornament Exchange** on your calendar. On **Tuesday, December 15 at 7:00 p.m.**, we will meet at Barb McAllister's home for an evening of fellowship that is sure to get you in the Christmas spirit. Everyone is asked to bring a Christmas ornament (no more than \$10) and your favorite holiday food to share. Barb is the "queen" of holiday decorating and we are excited she has offered to host our gathering! This is the perfect meeting to try if you have not yet joined us!





***Night Circle ...***  
**Making a change**  
**everyone will appreciate!**

We used to be known as the "Night Circle" but now we will be known as the Tuesday Circle and we will meet each month on the third Tuesday at 2:00 p.m. We hope this move to a convenient afternoon time slot will enable even more women to join our fellowship and study. All women are invited to this fellowship! Our study this year is Joshua. Ann Livingston is our coordinator and will be happy to answer any questions you might have about this Circle.

***Thank Offering ...***  
**Gratitude for**  
**blessings**  
**we have all**  
**received**

Each year during our November general meeting, the Women of Grace collect The Thank Offering. As part of our connection to the Presbyterian denomination, The Thank offering is an opportunity for us to express our gratitude for the special blessings in our lives. The giving guideline is simply "give as you are blessed." The money we collect is given to Presbyterian Women. Forty percent of this offering supports health ministries throughout the world. The remaining sixty percent of the offering funds new creative ideas for missions. Twenty-seven projects received grants from the 2009 Thank Offering. From nearly 70 requests, the Creative Ministries Offering Committee selected 14 projects in the United States and 13 projects in other parts of the world to receive a total of \$684,000.

**Day Circle ...**  
**November 9**  
**9:15 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.**

## ***Women of Grace***

**Retreat = Relax + Refresh + Rejoice**

**January 8-10**

**Camp Crucis**

**\$90**

See the WOG table or contact Julie Bayless for more information.  
Mark your calendars and sign up today!



# Youth Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2009

*W* HAPPY BIRTHDAY *W*

November

Travis Waggoner-Nov.30

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## Upcoming Youth Activities...

- Nov. 1, "Daniel Nite" @ GPC
- Nov. 8, Bonfire @ the Bayless house
- Nov. 15, Culture of Poverty speaker @ GPC
- Nov. 22, Fall Worship @ FPC Fort Worth
- Nov. 29, Coffee House @ GPC

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## CONGRATULATIONS Youth of the Month!

CC. Waggoner!!

C.C. is GPYC's newest supportive member of Youth!  
His birthday is May 3<sup>rd</sup>.  
C.C. is in 7<sup>th</sup> grade and is an amazing piano player!!

## Operation Christmas Child

*Begins October 25<sup>th</sup>!! We will be taking donations thru November 15<sup>th</sup> so start saving your shoe boxes!*

## Guest Speaker at GPC!

Lyllette Pharr of the Tarrant County Food Bank shows us that there is poverty right out our back doors. Come see her Power Point presentation on "Culture of Poverty", November 15, 2009 at 5:00 pm.

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## Come to Youth and Experience the Vision!

The Youth are participating in the new bible study from the Vision Ministry, What You do Best in the Body of Christ, by Bruce Bugbee

For information on youth events,  
Contact Sheryl Machen,  
C: (817) 296-7208  
Ofc: (817) 468-0868  
Email: s.machen@yahoo.com



# BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

For almost 100 years, Scouting programs have instilled in youth the values found in the Scout Oath and Scout Law. Today, these values are just as relevant in helping youth grow to their full potential as they were in 1910. Scouting helps youth develop academic skills, self-confidence, ethics, leadership skills, and citizenship skills that influence their adult lives.

The Boy Scouts of America provides youth with programs and activities that allow them to

- Try new things.
- Provide service to others.
- Build self-confidence.
- Reinforce ethical standards.



While various activities and youth groups teach basic skills and promote teamwork, Scouting goes beyond that and encourages youth to achieve a deeper appreciation for service to others in their community.

Scouting provides youth with a sense that they are important as individuals. It is communicated to them that those in the Scouting family care about what happens to them, regardless of whether a game is won or lost.

Finally, and perhaps most importantly, Scouting promotes activities that lead to personal responsibility and high self-esteem. As a result, when hard decisions have to be made, peer pressure can be resisted and the right choices can be made.



## Boy Scout Troop 421

### Score-O 2009



On October 17<sup>th</sup>, the troop participated in Score-O at Sid Richardson Scout Ranch on Lake Bridgeport. Score-O is a fast-paced competition of orienteering skill and strategy. Using maps and compasses the aim is to locate the most flags and score the maximum point total possible in 4 hours.

# *Using our time & talents in service. . .*

## Early Service

## Late Service

### November 1

Acolyte  
Guardian Angels  
Ushers  
  
Joys & Concerns  
Liturgist  
Communion Servers  
  
Communion Baker  
Communion Set-up  
Communion Cleanup  
Counters

Miranda Ross  
Mike Dillman  
Chris & John Conn  
  
Rick Brunson  
Becky Couch  
Joy Geppert, Jim Juengerman  
Chip Black, Paula Bauerle  
  
Jamie Curtis  
Barb McAllister  
Chris Conn  
Brian Anderson and Virginia Kendrick

Becky Couch  
Tom & Lisa Whinery, Mike  
McCoy, Linda Kindt  
  
Karen Ellen Anderson  
Tom & Janet Denny,  
Ann Pennington, Ann &  
Howard Livingston

### November 8

Ushers  
  
Guardian Angels  
Joys & Concerns  
Liturgist  
Counters

Rick and Robbie Brunson  
  
Bill or Ruth Irwin  
Sherry Coffman  
Tamara Robb  
Dave Kinkel and Tracy Loftin

John & Cathy Matson,  
Tom Denny, Queta Lopez  
Ana Waggoner  
  
Virginia Kendrick

### November 15

Ushers  
  
Guardian Angels  
Joys & Concerns  
Liturgist  
Counters

Sam & Barb McAllister  
  
Mary Steele  
Becky Couch  
Brittany Robb  
John McRoberts and Bill O'Mary

Jim & Susan Fuquay,  
Tom Denny, John McRoberts  
Frank Bauerle  
  
Dave Kinkel

### November 22 (Christ the King - Unity Service at 10:30 a.m.)

Acolyte  
Ushers  
Guardian Angels  
Joys & Concerns  
Liturgist  
Communion Servers  
Communion Set-up  
Communion Cleanup  
Counters

Molly Wulff  
Becky Couch, Tamara Robb, Kim & Harold Walker  
Ann Livingston/Dixie Conine  
Kent Couch  
Mike McCoy  
Ann stites, Mike Dillman, Mike McCoy and Louie Nash  
Martha Kinard and Mike McCoy  
Becky Couch  
Kathy Soukup and Rod Jones

### November 29

Ushers  
  
Guardian Angels  
Joys & Concerns  
Liturgist  
Counters

Jim & Joan Smith  
  
Louie Nash  
Doug Fabio  
Kent Couch  
Dick Townsend and Sam McAllister

Brian & Karen Ellen Ander  
son, Tom Denny and Howard  
Livingston  
Cindy Hutto  
  
Joan Townsend



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The next **Unity Worship** date is November 22 – Christ the King Sunday. One worship. Sunday School at 9:00 a.m. and worship at 10:30 a.m.

Prayer is an important part of our Christian lives. Our next **Meditation Service** date is November 5 from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.

### **Ordinary Sunday Worship Services**

8:30 am Contemporary Celebration Service  
9:45 am Church School  
11:00 am Traditional Service

Welcome to life together in Jesus Christ! We extend an invitation to membership in Grace Presbyterian Church to all who feel called to grow in faith and discipleship with this warm fellowship of Christians. Please let the Pastor or an Elder, know of your desire to join. Come join our family of faith!