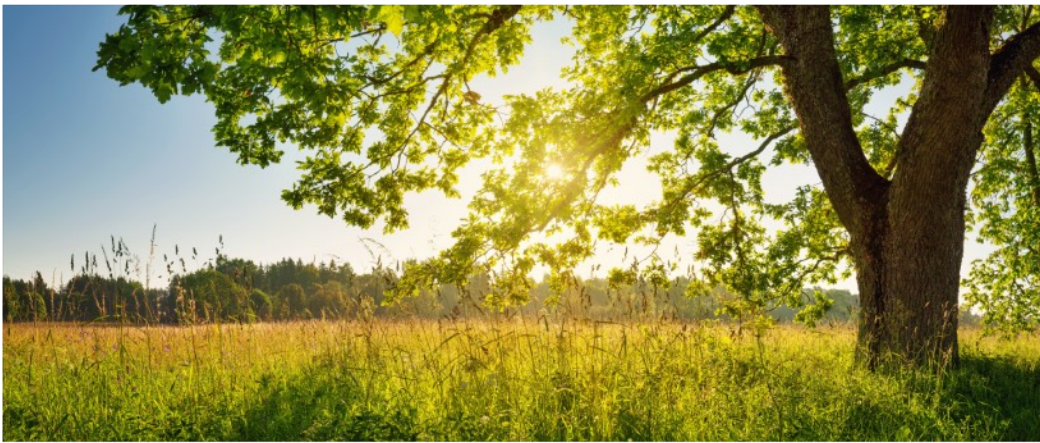




FALL 2021

CONNECTIONS

A Newsletter of Grand Lakes Presbyterian Church



A Taste of Wine and War

By Harry Slye

In serious need for recharging my batteries, your pastor headed out to visit a favorite place, Fredericksburg, Texas. German immigrants settled in that beautiful part of Texas, west of Austin, in May of 1846. In recent years it became popular for lovers of Texas history, art galleries, and great bakeries. Today though, wine has become way more profitable than pastries. Now there are wineries everywhere, and you have to dodge the buses shuttling tourists on wine tasting tours. I did find my cinnamon twist, and the art galleries are better than ever, but the surprise in the middle of it all was the National Museum of the Pacific War. It is awesome! Its 55,000 square feet are filled with parts of ships, whole planes and early tanks, photos and videos - and tourists from around the world, recalling that costly important story in modern history. But why is this in the little town of Fredericksburg? It's there because of another story, of a man who was born in that little town in 1885. Chester Nimitz rose from obscurity to lead the effort to defend our nation, and others, from one more evil attempt to conquer and oppress the world. Of course, you and I set this recent story alongside the stories that go back to the beginnings of human history. History is also, "His story," and it's now our stories too. We cannot sit oblivious on a wine tour bus, or in a bakery full of pastries, or in an art gallery of pretty landscapes, or even in the daily life of Katy, without remembering that life and death struggles still challenge us to know the truth and be set free by the truth, and share with others the truth, of the everlasting love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Bring on Fall 2021! We're ready for you.



Worship



Discipleship



Mission



Fellowship

WORSHIP

By Walt Glover



When Ordinary Time is Not Really Ordinary

August 1st worship occurred a bit less than halfway through the season of the Church called Ordinary Time. This doesn't mean this season is plain or boring or inconsequential. It is the time between Pentecost and the season of Advent. Pentecost, as you recall, is when the Holy Spirit came to indwell in all Christians and the church was born, and the season of Advent is when we prepare for the birth of our Savior, i.e., Christmas.

The color for Ordinary Time is green, as our current paraments reflect. And, the term Ordinary comes from ordinal numbers such as first, second, third, fourth, etc., that are used to express sequential order. So, August 1st will be the 10th Sunday after Pentecost.

Exciting things are happening during the Ordinary Season!

Upcoming Worship Calendar:

August 15th - Ordination and Installation of New Elders & Deacons.

August 22nd - Fall Church Kick-Off

We will start a new Sunday schedule:

Disciple Groups: 9:30 - 10:15am

Worship: 10:30 - 11:30am

We will celebrate the reopening of normal church activities including worship, Disciple Groups, & children's programs.

October 3rd - World Communion Sunday

November 1st - All Saints Day

So, Ordinary Time is anything but.

A CALL FOR USHERS!

On a side note, we need members to serve as ushers. It is an important role in our service and enables you to meet a lot of people.

**Please contact Walt Glover at:
worship@grandlakespc.org**

OUR SERVICES CONTINUE TO BE OFFERED VIA:



Youtube



Facebook



iTunes Podcast



Spotify Podcast





CHILDREN'S Sunday School

Children are the future of the Church! Sunday School is an amazing way for children to become familiar with the Bible and develop a deep relationship with God. Starting August 22nd, we will begin learning stories of the New Testament through The Gospel Project curriculum. We would love to see your kids there! Sunday School is at 9:30 a.m. for Preschool through 5th grade.

*Childcare is available for our youngest kiddos during Sunday School and Worship.

CLUB 45

The 2nd Sunday of each month, 5:30-6:30pm

Club 45 meets in Faith Express for a special time of study and fellowship for 4th and 5th graders as they go on a quest toward a deeper relationship with God. They also get an opportunity for games with the youth!



CHILDREN'S WORSHIP

Children's Worship will be held each Sunday starting August 22nd during our worship service for Kindergarten through 5th grade. Children will begin the service with their parents and be dismissed to Faith Express after A Moment with Children. If you would like to have your child with you during the entire service, worship bags are available outside the sanctuary doors. Childcare is available for Pre-K and younger.



MomLife

Thursday's starting August 26th at 10am

(Childcare provided)

MomLife is open to those looking for shared experiences in faith and parenting. We will be exploring a wide range of topics in a casual and open study. Please join us as we explore the joys and trials of being a parent with a Christian focus in a modern world.

TRUNK-or-TREAT

Saturday, October 30th from 5-7pm

This year each trunk will be a different Bible story! For more information, or to sign up to host a trunk, please contact Jessica at glpckids@grandlakespc.org.



GLPC YOUTH

By Tyler Henderson



YOUTH DISCIPLE GROUP SUNDAYS, 9:30-10:15am

Jr. High and High School students will gather Sunday mornings in the Youth for a time of Bible Study and discussion. We will be picking up the story of the Bible with the New Testament.

YOUTH BIBLE STUDY SUNDAYS, 5:00-6:30pm

Jr. High and High School students are welcome and encouraged to join us for a time of weekly biblical Study and fellowship! We have lots of fun theme nights planned, but our focus will always turn toward deepening our relationship with the Lord. As we kick off the Fall semester our lessons are going to focus on the parables of Jesus. Also, friends are welcome!

YOUTH FALL RETREAT October 1-3

Who: All YOUTH grades 6th thru 12th. Where: Lutherhill Ministries, La Grange, TX. What: Daily devotionals, worship, small group discussions, ropes course activities, swimming, campfire, singing, games, & more! Cost: \$150 per camper. Registration closes Sunday, September 19th.

OTHER EVENTS

Neon Night - Aug. 15
Youth Tailgate - Sept. 12
The Great Pumpkin Chase - Oct. 31

BE IN THE KNOW!

We have waaaay more going on than can be listed here.
Stay up-to-date by signing up for our emails and the Remind 101 app!
Contact Tyler for more info: thenderson@grandlakespc.org

ADULT DISCIPLESHIP

By RuthAnn Irwin

SUNDAY MORNING DISCIPLE GROUPS

The Voyagers Room 202

An in-depth study of the Bible and is led by a team who use various commentaries to help enhance the lively class discussion. Class members pray then read the Bible passage aloud in class, usually covering only one or two chapters each week. Books of the Bible to study are chosen by class consensus.

The Cultivators Room 209

Whether you've grown up hearing Bible stories or you're exploring Scripture for the first time, the full story of the Bible can be overwhelming. The Cultivators Class will cover the people, places, and promises of the Bible, tying them together into the greater story of Scripture.

What's A Presbyterian? Room 210

Pastor-led study beginning Sept. 12th It will be open to new members and also open to anyone wanting to know more about the church and its beliefs.

Please contact RuthAnn for more information: education@grandlakespc.org

BIBLE STUDIES

Women's Thursday Bible Study Room 209

Starting September 9th - Thursdays at 10am. Please join as we dive into the truths of God's Word through study and friendship.

Women's Friday Bible Study Faith Express

Fridays at 10am. We are a congenial group of mostly grandmas who love studying the Bible and wonderful fellowship! We tend to alternate our studies between books of the Bible and other biblical studies. We also try to get together for lunch once a month after our class time.

Men's Friday Bible Study Faith Express

Fridays at noon. We read aloud and discuss books by renowned theologians like C.S. Lewis, N.T. Wright and Henri Nouwen along with pertinent Bible passages, always from a Reformed perspective. The men eat together, pray, and learn from each other's unique Christian experience.

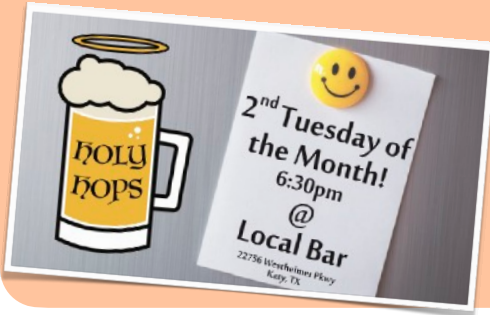
God's Love Story Room 202

Sunday evenings in Room 202 at 5pm and Tuesdays at noon via zoom. The Bible is a story about God's love for His creation, His people. Together we want to learn to recognize God's love in our lives and become stronger Christians through stronger faith. All are welcome to attend!

FUN & FELLOWSHIP

BACK TO SCHOOL BINGO!

This is a congregational favorite, will kick off the new school year on Sunday, August 22nd, at 5 p.m. in the sanctuary. Ribs, hot dogs, and hamburgers will be served. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. Come and enjoy fellowship with all.



Holy Hops meets at 6:00 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month at the Local Bar Katy restaurant (22756 Westheimer Pkwy #190, Katy, TX 77450). Join us as we gather to discuss a timely religious topic while catching up with friends or meeting new ones in a relaxed, fun environment.

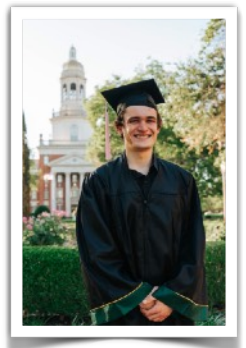
By Christianna Toler

MEMBERSHIP

WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS!

Be on the lookout to welcome our two newest faces at Grand Lakes Presbyterian Church.

AIDAN GETTEMY - If you have listened to the talented cellist who has blessed our congregation with beautiful music lately, then you know that one of our newest members is Aidan Gettemy, who made it known he is ready to serve our church by sharing his talent. Then for something completely different, he has also joined the mowing crew. Whew! Thanks, Aidan! Aidan comes to us by transfer from Columbus Avenue Baptist Church in Waco, Texas.



BILLIE CROOK - Her sweet smile can usually be spotted as she sits with daughter and son-in-law Shelley and Larry Howell during worship. A retiree, Billie came to our church by invitation from her family with whom she now makes her home in Katy.

If you or someone you know would like more information about becoming a member of our church, please let one of our pastors know or contact our membership team by emailing membership@grandlakespc.org or by calling the church office at (281) 646-7500.

REMEMBERING OUR BELOVED SAINTS IN THE CHURCH TRIUMPHANT

Samuel Davison, son of Tim & Jessica
Virginia Harrison, wife of Charlie

Cheryl Smith, wife of Tim
Lindell Byford, husband of Criss

DEACON MINISTRIES

By Tyler Henderson



Contact and Connections

The CONNECTIONS TEAM is looking for volunteers to “adopt” a college student in our congregation for the upcoming school year! If you are interested in sending love, encouragement, prayers and special goodies to a student please contact us at connections@grandlakespc.org by AUGUST 22.

Prayer and Care

If you would like to join our prayer team or if you have a prayer request that you would like our church to be praying for please contact Carol Greene and Claudia Dempsey at prayers@grandlakespc.org.

Meals and Memorial Services

GLPC provides meals to individuals and families in times of need. If you would like to partner with our meals team by providing a dish, please contact Cheryl Shafer and Debbie Nichols at meals@grandlakespc.org.

Host and Hospitality

We are always looking for friendly folks to welcome visitors as they walk in the doors of GLPC! We want everyone who comes in to be warmly welcomed and to feel like our community could be a safe place for them and their family. Contact Sarah Priest at hospitality@grandlakespc.org.

Pastor Nominating Committee

by Ashly Latter

The Pastor Nominating Committee has been faithfully meeting weekly for a year now. We continue to review PIF's (candidate applications), and are working to discern the will of God for Grand Lakes PC. After the session and finance committee met in June, we were given the green light to seek a Senior Pastor (while also being able to keep an Associate Pastor) instead of just a Solo Pastor. We hope to have more news in the near future.

PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE UPDATE

- ☒ 1. Election & organization of the PNC
- ☒ 2. Writing & submitting the MIF
- ☒ 3. Advertising the Position
- ☒ 4. Receiving & screening PIF'S
- ☒ 5. Interviewing promising candidates
- ☐ 6. Selection of the nominee
- ☐ 7. Election of the nominee
- ☐ 8. Installation of the pastor
- ☐ 9. Completion of the PNC's work

MISSIONS



KCM Food Drive

DON'T FORGET - Donations may be delivered to the church lobby on the 1st SUNDAY of each month!!

FINANCE & STEWARDSHIP

By Rob Fore

Mid-Year Financial Update

Summer is winding down here in Katy, TX but the stewardship support at GLPC certainly isn't. As of the end of June, the Finance Committee is pleased to report that we have achieved just over half of our Pledged giving goal for the year. Non-Pledged giving, or the amount we have to estimate each year, is also looking good at 64% of the budgeted amount. Expenses are also being managed well. This means we're right on track.

You all surely remember early in the year when there was still so much uncertainty. Because of this, the Session approved a very conservative budget based on minimal income outside of our Pledged figures. This budget was also very tight on the expenses. Outside of what we needed to maintain basic operations and facility costs, there wasn't a whole lot of room. This also meant our budget only allowed for one salaried pastor.

Hopefully the message has made its way around to everyone that due to an improving outlook, better than expected financial performance, and well attended worship services through the first half of the year; Session has voted to amend the budget to support a second pastor should a Senior Pastor be named by the end of the year. This means we are still financially committed to both a Senior and Associate Pastor. We tried to think of this decision in terms of near term challenges and long term goals for GLPC.

While we have some great enthusiasm and momentum going into the Fall, please be on the lookout for our 2021 Stewardship Campaign. We all want to carry this energy into 2022 and it takes the support of all of us to make that happen. Thank you for everything each and every one of you do to support our Church family!

3 Ways to Give

- ① Online at grandlakespc.org
- ② During Worship
- ③ Mail in a check

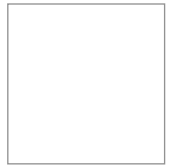
"God's people faithfully brought in the contributions, tithes, and dedicated gifts."
2 Chronicles 31:12

amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

Designate Grand Lakes Presbyterian Church as your Amazon Smile charity and GLPC will automatically earn a portion of your order from smile.amazon.com!



GRAND LAKES
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
6035 SOUTH FRY ROAD
KATY, TEXAS 77450



Stay up-to-date with the latest news by signing up for
the GLPC Weekly Email Newsletter!

To sign up visit our website:



grandlakespc.org

Follow us on:



If you would like to submit information for our next Connections Newsletter,
please contact Barb Thornley at newsletter@grandlakespc.org.

GLPC Highlights

SUNDAYS

Disciple Groups:
9:30am

In-Person Worship
Service at:
10:30am

Live-Streaming On:
Youtube
Facebook

Find out more
inside this
issue of
Connections!