



FALL 2022

CONNECTIONS

A Newsletter of Grand Lakes Presbyterian Church



In Training...

By Tyler Henderson

For a long as I can remember, sports have always held an important place in my life. I love sport - the activity required and health benefit of it, the challenge of competition - whether against your own personal bests ("PRs" as we know them) or against others, the camaraderie we gain from others with that shared interest, and the simple fun of it. Beginning in college, cycling became the love of my exercise life. From mile one, I fell in love with it and would spend much more time on my bike than I did in my collegiate studies (*probably to my GPA's dismay!*). I even joined my college cycling team and managed to win a number of races along the way. Though I have not been competitively racing since then, cycling has remained my love-sport.

As we all know, busyness catches up with us all from time-to-time (*or sometimes it feels like ALL the time!*). The past few years at the church have been busy and full of changes... and I am honest enough to admit that I have let my cycling workouts suffer as a result. This summer, I have resolved to rededicate myself to my love-sport. I have an event goal coming up in September with a small cohort of other pastors to ride the Tour de Tahoe - a 72 mile bike ride around Lake Tahoe. With the goal in mind, I have a renewed motivation to get back on the bike regularly. The training is not always easy, but it is worth it.

The Apostle Paul once wrote Timothy, *"train yourself to be godly. For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come."* Training ourselves in godliness has many wonderful parallels to the training we undergo in sports. Sports, though, don't go with us into eternity. While athletic training is a worthwhile earthly pursuit, our greater and ultimate pursuit is that of our lives before God. How can you train yourself in godliness and implement that practice in your life today?



Worship



Discipleship



Mission



Fellowship

WORSHIP

By Kimber Hamilton
worship@grandlakespc.org

The Worship Committee would like for you to join us in a warm welcome to Christian De la Cruz, our Interim Director of Music!

Christian De la Cruz just completed his 12th year of teaching as the associate choir director with the internationally acclaimed Reagan High School Choir Program and has served as the associate director of music at First Protestant Church since 2014. Christian graduated Summa Cum Laude from Texas State University with a bachelors in music education and a minor in mathematics thanks to the Terry Foundation Full Ride Scholarship awarded to just 16 out of over 5000 incoming freshmen. Choirs under his direction have earned consistent Superior ratings at UIL, and Reagan Choir has consistently had multiple students earn a spot in the Texas All-State Choirs. In 2017 Reagan placed first in the Texas Madrigal Festival. Christian is frequently invited as a clinician, judge, and guest conductor throughout the state. Christian has conducted and sung with choirs in Peru, South Africa, the UK, Switzerland, and Italy. In 2019 the Reagan Choir program won the Leonardo Da Vinci International Choral Festival in Florence, Italy where they competed against choirs from Spain, Denmark, Bulgaria, the Philippines, Indonesia, Costa Rica, and China. Christian is excited for his new calling in Katy, TX where he will be moving this summer with his two greatest joys: his wife, Audrey, and seven year old daughter, Rose. Christian is excited to be the new Interim Director of Music at Grand Lakes Presbyterian Church and the new head choir director at Tompkins High School.



A Little Info About A Few Special Upcoming Sundays:

World Communion Sunday (Oct. 2) which is celebrated by churches worldwide on the first Sunday in October. It is an opportunity for us to share communion with our sisters and brothers around the world. As someone who has lived overseas, World Communion Sunday was always special for me knowing we were celebrating our oneness in Christ with our family in the US and around the world.

Reformation Sunday (Oct. 30). Reformation Sunday acknowledges the anniversary of the reformation of the Protestant church in 1517 stating that the Bible is the sole authority for all matters of faith. It is celebrated on the last Sunday in October. Red is the liturgical color of Reformation Sunday representing the Holy Spirit.

All Saints Remembrance (Nov. 6). We will acknowledge our church members who have joined the Church Triumphant in this past year. We will remember them and celebrate their faithfulness.

Upcoming Worship Calendar:

Sunday Morning Schedule:

Disciple Groups: 9:30 - 10:15am

Worship: 10:30 - 11:30am

August 14th - Back-to-School Blessings

August 15th - Pastor Installation Service

**August 21st - Ordination & Installation
of New Elders & Deacons.**

October 2nd - World Communion Sunday

November 6th - All Saints Remembrance

November 13th - Commitment Sunday

GLPC KIDS

By Jessica Henderson
jhenderson@grandlakespc.org

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. We are learning New Testament stories 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.

TRUNK-or-TREAT

Sunday, October 30th from 3-5pm

Come in costume to enjoy games, Bible stories, food, and fun! For more information, or to sign up to host a trunk, please contact Jessica at jhenderson@grandlakespc.org.

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP

Children's Worship is held each Sunday during our worship service for Kindergarten through 5th grade. Children will begin the service with their families and be dismissed to Faith Express after the Children's Time.

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.



ADULT DISCIPLESHIP

By RuthAnn Irwin
education@grandlakespc.org

We will have our Fall Kick Off on August 14!

Some classes were on break over the summer but now the discipleship groups will be meeting again! We will be sharing more information after church on August 14 and classes will resume the following week.

We hope you will consider joining and making a small group at church part of your worship time.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday mornings, 9:30am

The Voyagers

Room 202

In-depth study of the Bible led by a team who use various commentaries to help enhance the lively class discussion. Meets Sundays at 9:30 a.m.

The Cultivators

Room 209

The Cultivators Class is a lively discussion-oriented group for on-the-go adults seeking to understand how to apply scripture to daily life. We will be unpacking The Bible from its ancient origins to what each book offers a modern reader. Come as you are – no experience necessary!

WEEKLY BIBLE STUDIES

Women's Thursday Bible Study

Room 209

Join us at 10 a.m. Thursday mornings beginning September 8th as we begin a new study. We are planning to meet for an informal lunch on September 1st, location to be determined. Please contact Jennifer Malone for details at jensmalone@msn.com.

Women's Friday Bible Study

Room 209

Fridays at 10am. This class has a goal to grow an understanding of God's word and to deepen our relationship with Him by studying the Bible as well as Bible studies by other theologians.

Men's Friday Bible Study

Room 209

Fridays at noon. We read aloud and discuss books by renowned theologians along with pertinent Bible passages, always from a Reformed perspective.

God's Love Story

Room 202

Sunday evenings in Room 202 at 5pm. We are currently studying the Gospel According to Luke. All are welcome to attend! Contact George Puig for more info!

YOUTH MINISTRY

GRAND LAKES PRESBYTERIAN

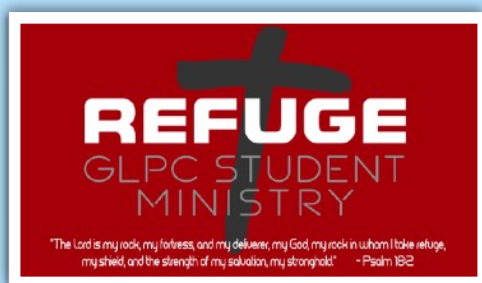
GLPC YOUTH

By Tyler Henderson
youth@grandlakespc.org

Youth Fall Calendar!

Youth Sunday School 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.



Sunday Night Youth Group! 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. Friends are always welcome!



YOUTH FALL RETREAT October 28-30th

Who: All YOUTH grades 6th - 12th.

Where: Lutherhill Ministries, La Grange, TX.

What: Daily devotionals, worship, small group discussions, ropes course, swimming, campfire, singing, games, & more!

Cost: \$150 per camper.

Registration closes Sunday, October 15th

GLPC Student Ministry FALL 2022

AUG.

14th - BACK-TO-SCHOOL BINGO!
21st - Youth (Za-Night)
28th - Neon Night!

SEPT.

4th - Labor Day Weekend - (NO Sunday DG or Youth Group)
11th - Youth Tailgate - (Sports Team Theme Night)
18th - Youth - (Duct Tape Games)
25th - Youth (Za-Night)

OCT.

2nd - The Great Youth Bake-Off
9th - Youth (Za-Night)
16th - Mismatch Night
23rd - The Great Pumpkin Chase & Costume Night
28-30th - FALL RETREAT WEEKEND (NO Sunday DG or Youth)

NOV.

6th - Youth (Za-Night)
13th - Youth Movie Night
- 20th - Thanksgiving week (NO Sunday DG or Youth)
27th - Glow Night (Glow Games & Campfire)

DEC.

- Saturday, 3rd - Santa's Sleigh Shopping Day
4th - Cocoa Night (Hot chocolate + holiday snacks)
- Saturday, 17th - GLPC Kids: Welcome to Bethlehem
11th - Youth Christmas Party
- 18th - Christmas Break (NO Sunday DG or Youth)
- Friday, 24th - Christmas Eve Services
- 25th - Christmas Break (NO Sunday DG or Youth)

BE IN THE KNOW!

We have lots more going on than can be listed here. We send out a weekly youth email for week-to-week information.

Stay up-to-date by signing up for our emails and messages in the GLPC app!

Contact Tyler for more info: thenderson@grandlakespc.org

FUN & FELLOWSHIP

By Bonnie Pankina
fun@grandlakespc.org

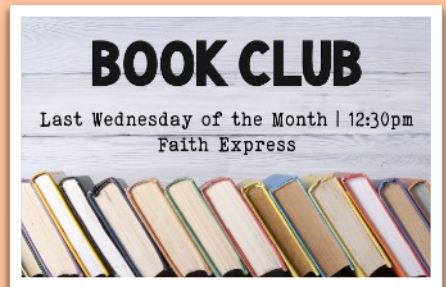


Table for 8-ish

Connect with a group of 8-9 people once a month for a meal and fellowship to create lasting friendships. Sign up at the church, through the website, or the GLPC app!

Prime Timers

Prime Timers Games Day gathers the first Tuesday of the month from 10-12:00. For more information contact: Verna Powers 281-513-0209 or Betty Lou Johnson 281-395-8836.



Book Club

Join us the last Wednesday of the month at 12:30 in Faith Express to discuss various books while spending time with one another.



Art Fellowship

Do you have artistic interests? All are welcome for a time of art and fellowship. Meets each Thursday starting in September. Bring your own supplies.



Quilters

Bring your quilting projects Thursdays at 1pm and enjoy fellowship with others.

DEACON MINISTRIES

By Tyler Henderson



Contact & 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.



Prayer & 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 us at prayers@grandlakespc.org.

Meals & 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 us at meals@grandlakespc.org.



MEMBERSHIP

By Christianna Toler
membership@grandlakespc.org

We are happy to welcome so many new members over the summer!



We all know her and are now rejoicing that **Maureen Woodruff** became one of our newest members in May. Maureen is a regular attendee and an active member of the Voyagers Class. Glad to call you family, Maureen!

You may remember **Teri Gnaedinger** with bells in her hands when she played with the bell choir long before making her membership official in May this year. Now you can find her volunteering in the church office on Fridays. What a go-getter! Welcome, Teri!



Mary Bullock is also a familiar face as she too has answered the call to help out around the church office. If her name seems familiar, you are not imagining things -- She is the mother of longtime member Kenneth Wayne Bullock (married to Beth) and grandmother to John Caleb and Henry. Mary also joined in May. Thank you, Mary!

On June 22, we welcomed **Adele Fonji** and husband **Frankline Awasom** as new members along with their children **Amir** and **Amira**. Adele is a nurse and Frankline is in pharmaceutical sales. They are transferring from First Presbyterian of Kingwood. Glad your family is now part of our church family!



After quite a bit of world traveling for business, **Gilbert and Karen Nance** have settled in Weston Lakes and are making Grand Lakes Pres their church home. They are transferring their membership from Atascocita Presbyterian Church. Welcome Nance family!

Also in June **Olufemi Olukoya** was welcomed as a new member. Olu (or Teddy as he is sometimes called) immediately joined the choir and even hopped on a mower to help with maintaining our large lawn. Olu is a home healthcare specialist. Thank you, Olu!



Our door is always open for new members so if you or someone you know would like more information about becoming a member of our church, please make yourself known to Reverend Tyler Henderson or contact our membership team by emailing membership@grandlakespc.org or by calling the church office at (281) 646-7500.

We also celebrated a number of other special occasions this summer!

Baptisms

Gia Esme Andino, daughter of Cesar and Jenna Andino, sister to Gemma
Jerome Mokwe, Jr. and Alison Mokwe, son and daughter of Jerome and Roseline Mokwe

Marriage

Darius and Emily Thompson became husband and wife on August 30, 2022, at Grand Lakes Presbyterian Church with Reverend Tyler Henderson officiating. Emily is the daughter of Harold and Lorissa Jackson.

MISSIONS

Rodney McCain
missions@grandlakespc.org



KCM Food Drive

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



AMAZING PLACE

This Fall we will have some upcoming opportunities to work with Amazing Place. Stay tuned for more info!



Presbyterian Children's Homes & Services (PCHAS)

There are numerous opportunities throughout the year to help support this vital ministry!



FORT BEND CASA

Fort Bend CASA will be visiting GLPC soon to tell us more about their organization and the important work that they do!

THE NEW GLPC APP & WEBSITE!

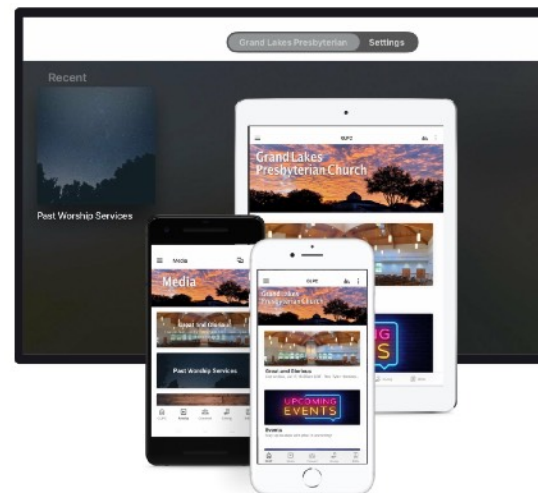
From our app you can:

- Watch our worship services
- Sign in to let us know you're joining us for worship
- Submit prayer requests
- Easily give financially to the ministry of the church
- Sign up for events & share events with others
- Explore info about the church & its various ministries
- Access the Bible
- & MORE!



Grand Lakes Presbyterian Church

Available in App Stores



2 Ways to Give

- 1 Online
via GLPC app or www.grandlakespc.org
- 2 Checks or Cash
given in worship or by mail

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

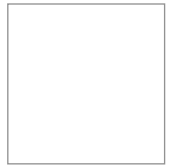
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GRAND LAKES
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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If you would like to submit information for our next Connections Newsletter, please contact Barb Thornley at newsletter@grandlakespc.org.

GLPC Highlights

SUNDAYS

Disciple Groups:
9:30am

In-Person Worship:
10:30am

Live-Streaming On:
The GLPC APP
Youtube
Facebook

Find out more
inside this
issue of
Connections!