



WINTER 2022

# CONNECTIONS

A Newsletter of Grand Lakes Presbyterian Church



## The Most Wonderful Time...

Rev. Tyler Henderson

One of the most well known Christmas songs proclaims:

*♪ "It's the most wonderful tiiiiime of the yeeaaaaarrrr..." ♪*

*(Did you like my singing??)* I couldn't agree more with the words of that song. The Christmas season is a time when we often find ourselves reflecting with fond nostalgia on Christmases past - while at the same time immersing ourselves in the present season. Every year I remember what it was like as a child to have that joyful anticipation of Christmas morning. Even as I've grown and now have children of my own, I continue to feel that excitement that the Christmas season brings. But as for me now, it's less about receiving toys and more about the festiveness of the season, the happy songs on the radio, the glow of Christmas lights adorning the homes in the neighborhood, the warmth of the interior home decor - the garland, the trees, and the lights that fill our homes - and of course the time with family and friends.

This season of joyful remembrance and hopeful anticipation ought to define our lives as Christians. In every moment we ought to always joyfully remember the goodness and blessing of God while we are also living with a hopeful anticipation of our eternal future. We have a reason to rejoice in all circumstances because we know that through the incarnation of God in Jesus Christ, God has given us the greatest gift of all. God entered into our earthly space and time to redeem us from the darkness of sin and death in order that we would have the light of salvation through faith. My hope and prayer for us all this season is that we would immerse ourselves in the love of God and experience the joy and hope of our life together in Christ. May God bless you this most wonderful time of year!



**Worship**



**Discipleship**



**Mission**



**Fellowship**

# Christmas at Grand

## 🎄 Deck the Halls 🎄

**Saturday, November 26th**

Calling all elves! Who enjoys decorating for Christmas?! This is for people of all ages! Come join us as we decorate the church building in all its festive Christmas decor! This will be a fun time of service and fellowship as we decorate, sing songs, and we will even have pizza, hot chocolate, and Christmas cookies! Bring the kids!



## Join us for the season of Advent!

November 27<sup>th</sup> - Hope  
December 4<sup>th</sup> - Peace

December 11<sup>th</sup> - Joy  
December 18<sup>th</sup> - Love

## Christmas Poinsettias

You can help grace our Christmas Eve worship services with poinsettias from Brookwood Community. Each plant is \$10. Order forms are available at the church and forms are due by **December 11th!**  
(You may take home your poinsettias after the Christmas Eve service.)



## 🎄 GLPC Christmas Ornament Fundraiser! 🎄

We are selling new beautiful glass bulb GLPC ornaments well as ornaments from a previous year. Proceeds will support Presbyterian Children's Homes & Services. You can purchase them in the GLPC app, online, or at the table in the foyer!



## KCM Santa's Sleigh Toy Drive

**How to sign up?** Email Rodney McCain at [missions@grandlakespc.org](mailto:missions@grandlakespc.org) with any questions you may have or the number of children you would like to adopt. Rodney will email you the information on the child(ren) and their wish lists.

**Due date?** Please make sure your gifts are dropped off at the church by Sunday morning, Dec. 4th





# Lakes Presbyterian!



## Sleigh Ride Supper

**Saturday, December 10th, 5:00-8:00pm**

It's time for our annual progressive-style dinner! All who sign up will be assigned to a small group and a home where you will enjoy dinner from Hasta La Pasta. Then we will all gather together at 7 p.m. at the Paulson's for drinks, dessert, songs, and fun. Sign ups will be online. Email [fun@grandlakespc.org](mailto:fun@grandlakespc.org) with any questions.

## Youth Christmas Party!

**Sunday, December 11th, 5-7pm**

All youth are invited to join us at the Favenesi's for a night of dinner and fun! Bring a White Elephant gift of <\$10!



## GLPC KIDS WELCOME TO BETHLEHEM

**Saturday, December 17th 2-4pm in Faith Express**

Kids will get the chance to journey back in time to discover what life was like in Bethlehem during the time of Jesus' birth. We hope your family will join us for a fun and meaningful experience!



## Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

**December 24th, 5:30pm**

We hope that all will join us for our candlelight Christmas Eve service! This is always a very special night of worship as we remember the significance of Christ's birth. Childcare available.

## Christmas at Home Worship

**Sunday, December 25th**

Since Christmas falls on a Sunday this year we have decided to offer a special at-home online worship service. We hope you and your family will take the opportunity to worship virtually with us!



# GLPC KIDS

Jessica Henderson  
jhenderson@grandlakespc.org

Marci Alldred  
childrens@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 and 10:30am for Preschool through 5th grade. Childcare is available for our youngest kiddos.

### GLPC Kids Monthly Mission Project



### Monthly Mission Project

Each month we support one of our mission efforts to teach our kids the joy and importance of giving. For the month of December, the kids will be making cards for the children of PCHAS. If kids participate, they receive extra Bible bucks!

## YOUTH

Joseph Myers  
youth@grandlakespc.org



**Sunday School @ 9:30**

**Sunday Night Youth Group**

**5:00-6:30pm**

All Jr. High & High School students are welcome to join us for a time of Bible Study & fellowship! We have lots of fun theme nights planned. Friends are always welcome!



**2023 WINTER RETREAT**

**January 13-15<sup>th</sup>**

Registration is now open for our annual winter retreat! We are heading back to Surfside Beach, TX for a relaxing time away in which we will spend time with the Lord in daily devotionals and small group discussions. We also play lots of games, eat lots of snacks, and enjoy time together! Cost is \$150 per youth. Registration closes Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup>

### GLPC Student Ministry SPRING 2023

**JAN.**

- 1<sup>st</sup> - Christmas Break - (NO Sunday School or Youth Group)  
8<sup>th</sup> - Youth - Pajama Night  
13-15<sup>th</sup> - WINTER RETREAT WEEKEND!  
22<sup>nd</sup> - Youth (Za-Night)  
29<sup>th</sup> - Youth - Gameshow Showdown

**FEB.**

5<sup>th</sup> - "Super" Bowl Night (as in dress like a super hero!)  
- 12<sup>th</sup> - Super Bowl Sunday (NO Youth Group)  
19<sup>th</sup> - Youth (Za-Night)  
26<sup>th</sup> - Youth - Disney Theme Night

**MAR.**

5<sup>th</sup> - Youth - March Madness  
- 12<sup>th</sup> - Spring Break (NO Sunday School or Youth)  
13-18<sup>th</sup> Spring Break: Youth Room Workdays (details to come)  
19<sup>th</sup> - Disc Golf Outing at Willowfork Park  
26<sup>th</sup> - Youth - Cabbage Ball

**APR.**

2<sup>nd</sup> Palm Sunday - Easter Festival & Youth  
- 9<sup>th</sup> - Easter (NO Youth)  
17<sup>th</sup> - Youth (Za-Night)  
24<sup>th</sup> - Youth - Oreo Night  
29-30<sup>th</sup> - Youth Lock-In (NO Youth Group Sunday Night)

**MAY**

7<sup>th</sup> - Youth (Za-Night)  
- 14<sup>th</sup> Mother's Day - (NO Youth)  
21<sup>st</sup> - Graduate Sunday & End of Year Party!  
- 28<sup>th</sup> Memorial Day Weekend - (NO Youth)



# WORSHIP

Kimber Hamilton  
worship@grandlakespc.org

It's the start of a new church year! Our Gregorian Calendar is coming to an end in less than 60 days (yep, 60 days); however, the first Sunday in Advent is the start of the Christian year.

**Advent** - Advent is a season of anticipating the celebration of the coming of Christ. There are four Sundays in Advent. Each has a specific theme to reflect on the true meaning of Christmas. The first Sunday, November 27, we will reflect on Hope, and God's promise. The three following three Sundays, we will reflect on Peace, Joy, and Love. The first two Sundays look forward to Christ's second coming, and the second two Sundays look backward to remember Christ's first coming. We have a unique opportunity for families and children to participate in the special time of focusing on the themes during worship.



**Epiphany** - Christmas marks the incarnation of God in the person of Jesus Christ. Following Christmas, we will celebrate God's manifestation to the world as Jesus Christ on Epiphany Sunday. Epiphany celebrates Christ's appearance in the midst of humanity. Following Epiphany, we will celebrate the baptism of the Christ by John the Baptist and remember our own baptisms. The time after Epiphany lasts for 6 weeks up until Transfiguration Sunday.

**Transfiguration Sunday** - Transfiguration Sunday is the last Sunday before Ash Wednesday and the Lent.

*We hope that you will join us as we begin the new church year, prepare to celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior, and celebrate His baptism and transfiguration!*

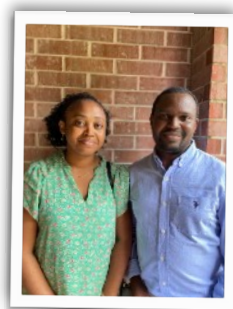
# MEMBERSHIP

Debbie DeLuca  
membership@grandlakespc.org

## Welcome our new members!



Audrey and Christian De la Cruz and their daughter, Carolyn Rose De la Cruz. Christian is our new choir director and Audrey has joined the choir. We have been blessed with their beautiful voices on Sunday mornings and look forward to their participation.



Chris Yotta and Arnelle Meli and their children, Curtis and Joanna

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](mailto:membership@grandlakespc.org) or by calling the church office at (281) 646-7500.

**We also remember those who have entered the church triumphant over the past few months:**

Fred Adair 8/2/22

Lynn Fortier 10/25/22

# ADULT DISCIPLESHIP

RuthAnn Irwin  
education@grandlakespc.org

## 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

We meet Thursday at 10am and we would love to have you join us! Our studies vary, and we always enjoy great discussion!

### 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.

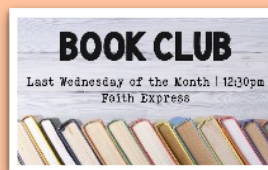
# FUN & FELLOWSHIP

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.



### 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.

### Prime Timers

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



### Quilters

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



### Art Fellowship

Do you have artistic interests? All are welcome for a time of art and fellowship. Meets each Thursday at 10am. Bring your own supplies!

# 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!!

See more information about our Christmas Ornament fundraiser and Santa's Sleigh Toy Drive in the Christmas at GLPC page!

# DEACON MINISTRIES



## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:meals@grandlakespc.org).

# DOWNLOAD THE GLPC APP!

## 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](http://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

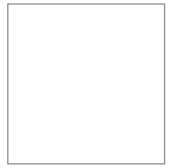
## amazon smile

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](https://smile.amazon.com)!



**GRAND LAKES**  
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If you would like to submit information for our next Connections Newsletter, please contact Barb Thornley at [newsletter@grandlakespc.org](mailto:newsletter@grandlakespc.org).

## GLPC Highlights

### SUNDAYS

Disciple Groups:  
9:30am

Worship:  
10:30am

Live-Streaming On:  
The GLPC APP  
Youtube  
Facebook

Find out more  
inside this  
issue of  
**Connections!**