



CONNECTIONS

A Newsletter of Grand Lakes Presbyterian Church



“Let’s GOOOO!!!”

By Rev. Tyler Henderson

As baseball season nears playoff time, that means football season is just getting started! As a sports fan, I love this time of year. If you’re a sports fan as well, you’ve likely heard athletes shout *“Let’s GOOO!!”* after making a great play. It has become a celebratory expression to encourage teammates to keep the positive momentum going. It’s a rally cry to stay focused on the greater goal and to continue the fight.

Whether you like sports or not, they provide great lessons for life - and especially for our lives of discipleship. The Apostle Paul even used a few sports illustrations in his letters:

“I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. ²³ I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings. ²⁴ Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. ²⁵ Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. ²⁶ So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. ²⁷ But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.” - 1 Corinthians 9:24-27

In life we all face obstacles, opponents, and fatigue. The church has no exception to these challenges. But like an athlete, we are called to live with strength, discipline, tenacity, and perseverance for the sake of the gospel. Brothers and sisters, let’s be a church that strives for the prize! Let us, as Hebrews 12:1-2 encourages us, *“throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.”*

We have an incredible hope in the promises of God, and a message that people need to hear. Let us live out our calling for the sake of the gospel and strive for the prize. Church, **LET’S GOOOOOO!!!!**



Worship



Discipleship



Mission



Fellowship

WORSHIP

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August 13th

Back-to-School Blessings

We want to offering a time of prayer and blessing for students, teachers, administrators, and parents too! Everyone is invited to wear their school shirts to church!

August 20th

Ordination & Installation Service

We hope all are able to join us when we ordain and install our next class of elders and deacons!

October 29th

Mission Sunday & Reformation Sunday

For more information on Mission Sunday, see the Mission section of the newsletter!

November 5th

All Saints Remembrance Sunday

November 12th

Commitment Sunday

This is our opportunity to recommit our hearts to God by offering our time, efforts, gifts to the service of God's will.



DOWNLOAD THE GLPC APP!

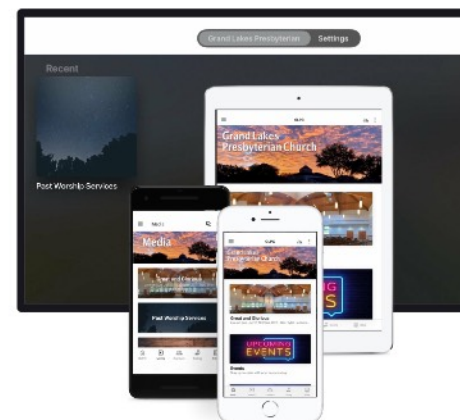
From our app you can:

- 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



GLPC KIDS

Jessica Henderson
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Marci Alldred
childrens@grandlakespc.org



Summer Recap!



Every other Sunday, our 4th and 5th graders met for Club 45. We went on a quest to a closer relationship with God by learning ways to draw near to Him. The kids also created awesome paintings to hang in their new room, played board games, and enjoyed hanging out with the youth!



CHILDREN'S Sunday School

SUNDAY SCHOOL is held each Sunday at 9:30am & then again during our worship service for Pre-K through 5th grade. Elementary aged children will begin the service with their family and be dismissed to Faith Express after the Children's Lesson. 4th & 5th graders will now meet upstairs in Room 210 in a room just their own! Childcare is available for our youngest kiddos. We would love to see your kids there!

CHILDREN'S CHOIR practices each Sunday morning at 10am in Faith Express! Children will sing in the service the 2nd Sunday of each month. Hope your kids can join the fun!



CLUB 45

CLUB 45 is a special time for 4th & 5th graders the 3rd Sunday of each month from 4:00-5:30pm upstairs in Room 210! We will participate in fun activities, dig into God's Word, & have a little time to hang out with the youth!

TRUNK OR TREAT is set for Saturday, October 28th from 3:00-5:00pm! Join us in your costumes for games, food, live music, and fun! Contact Jessica if you'd like to host a trunk.



YOUTH

Joseph Myers
youth@grandlakespc.org



Youth Summer Recap!

It's been a busy and hot summer but the youth were able to cool off on our summer trip to Idaho. We were able to help clean up the church grounds and help a congregation member with various tasks on their farm. Our daily lessons were centered around the book of Daniel. We also enjoyed kayaking, hiking, zip lining and lots of laughs. It was a great week of service, fellowship, and fun.



We're Gearing Up For Our Next Retreat!!

YOUTH FALL RETREAT October 6-9th

Who: All YOUTH grades 6th - 12th.

Where: Mo Ranch, TX

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

Cost: \$150 per camper. Registration closes Sept. 30th

Register in the GLPC app!!!



REFUGE

GLPC STUDENT MINISTRY

"The Lord is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer, my God, my rock in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the strength of my salvation, my stronghold." - Psalm 182

Weekly:

Sunday School @ 9:30am

Join us Sunday mornings in the Youth Room for our weekly Bible lessons.

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! This Fall we will be studying various characters in the Old & New Testaments and how they show us examples of how to live with faith in our world! We have lots of fun theme nights planned. Friends are always welcome!

GLPC Student Ministry FALL 2023

AUG.

13th - Back-to-School Bingo
20th - Za & Zerts Night
27th - Neon Night

SEPT.

3rd - Labor Day Weekend - (NO Youth)
10th - Youth Tailgate - (Sports Team Theme Night)
17th - Za & Zerts Night
24th - GLPC Bowling Night Out

OCT.

1st - Duct Tape Games
6-9th - FALL RETREAT WEEKEND
15th - Movie Night (Za & Zerts Night)
22nd - Mismatch Night
Saturday, 28th - GLPC Kids: Trunk-or-Treat
29th - The Great Pumpkin Chase

NOV.

5th - Hot Wheels Night
Saturday, 11th - Church Outdoor Movie Night
12th - Harry Potter Night
19th - Thanksgiving week - (NO Youth)
26th - Glow Night (Glow Games & Campfire)

DEC.

Saturday, 2nd - Santa's Sleigh Shopping Day
3rd - Cocoa Night (Hot chocolate + holiday snacks)
10th - The Great Youth Bake-Off
Saturday, 16th - GLPC Kids: Welcome to Bethlehem
17th - Christmas Party
24th - Christmas Break (Christmas Eve Services)
31st - Christmas Break (NO SS or Youth)

Foundations

Confirmation Class

SIGN-UP IS AVAILABLE FOR CONFIRMATION CLASS!

What is confirmation?

- Confirmation is a class available for anyone (typically Jr High - High School age) who is ready to take the next step and take ownership of their faith. The class covers the essential beliefs of the Christian faith.

When are the classes?

- Sundays @ 9:30am starting Sept. 10th

How to sign up?

- Sign up through the events tab in the GLPC app, or contact Tyler for info.

GLPC COLLEGE CONNECTIONS

We want to continue to show our support for our college students, and we are doing that in two great ways!

- 1) **Care Packages:** We would love to hear what college students would be interested in being a part of our care package ministry. Also, any church members who are interested in support a student, please let us know!
- 2) **GLPC's new Christian Growth & Leadership Scholarship:** GLPC now offers a scholarship for college students who continue to actively invest themselves in church and campus ministries while in college. For scholarship information, please contact Tyler.

ADULT DISCIPLESHIP

RuthAnn Irwin
education@grandlakespc.org

As we head into Fall we have several groups that meet weekly! We would love to invite you to join in and try a small group within our congregation. Small groups are a great way to build relationships and make connections as you study God's word. Being connected helps to build that community that makes a church a place where you feel at home. We hope you will join us!

SUNDAY SCHOOL:

On Sunday mornings we have two adult classes:

- The Disciple class is currently studying John and will continue this for several weeks. Please join this class in Room 201.
- The Cultivators class will be studying the Apostle Paul this fall. From persecutor to persecuted, we will cover his beginnings in Acts through the Pauline Epistles to enrich our understanding of a man who was transformed in Christ. Please join us Sunday mornings in room 209.

Mid-week Bible Studies:

We have two women's Bible study groups that meet on weekdays:

- Thursday morning women's study - This is a very welcoming group of women of all ages. This group does various studies throughout the year including book and media studies. They meet in room 209 at 10am.
- Friday morning women's study. This very congenial group likes to call themselves the grandmothers at our church. They are a welcoming group with great discussions. This Fall they will study of Romans using "Romans: In the Grip of Grace" by Max Lucado. The study includes a DVD narrated by Max Lucado where he welcomes us into the knowledge and freedom of grace in Paul's letter to the Romans. Each week, we will read several chapters from Romans, watch a video, and discuss relevant topics. This promises to be an informative study with lots of opportunities for discussion to help us better understand God's amazing grace!



GLPC is hosting a few classes led by Amazing Place!

For more info visit amazingplacehouston.org or scan the QR codes with your phone's camera.

Memory Enhancement Training

Wednesdays: 9/20, 9/27, 10/4 from 10am-12pm

In this free, 3-week program, certified trainers teach proven memory enhancing techniques that address common everyday memory concerns. You will learn tips for remembering names and faces, recalling appointments and plans, avoiding misplacing objects, and overcoming those "tip of the tongue" memory slips. Nine out of ten participants report improvements in their memory!

**This training is not intended for people with Alzheimer's disease or other forms of dementia.*



SCAN ME

Aging Solo Class

Wednesdays: 10/25, 11/1, 11/8 from 10am-12pm

The key to aging well is planning your aging journey. This free, 3-week, 2 hours per week program will help you get your documents in order, define your support network, understand what is involved with aging in place or moving to a care community, and determine your next steps. It's never too early or too late to think about your aging journey!



SCAN ME



rightnow MEDIA GLPC has a church subscription to RightNow Media - which means you can too (for free)!

What is RightNow media? Think Netflix for Bible study and Christian-based content. You can sign into your account from any computer, smart phone, tablet or smart TV device such as AppleTV, Roku, FireTV, etc. Not only that, you can invite any of your friends to join *for free* through our GLPC link!

How can you make your own account??

- Scan the QR code with your phone's camera.
- Or, go to: www.grandlakespc.org/rightnowmedia



SCAN ME

MISSIONS

Rodney McCain
missions@grandlakespc.org

Summer Mission Recap

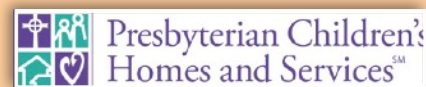
We had a number of Mission projects this summer. Thank you to everyone who helped contribute to any of these efforts!

- **Our Children's Ministry Vacation Bible School collected \$660 for Fort Bend CASA.** CASA stands for "Court Appointed Special Advocates" - they serve as advocates who ensure that the child's best interests are being nurtured.



- **GLPC's Monthly Katy Christian Ministry Food Pantry Drive:** In August we had a wonderful contribution of nearly 500 lbs of food and goods!
- **Katy Christina Ministry Red Apple Back-to-School Donation Drive.** GLPC donated over \$1,775 which was a great success!

- **Presbyterian Children's Homes & Services Back-to-School Drive.** PCHAS was very thankful for our support of the Back-to-School supply drive! The number of supplies donated for the 13 children exceeded the need of the 13 so they were able to use the overage for other children.



- **Blood Drive for Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center.** GLPC hosted a blood drive on July 30th. Thank you to everyone to donated blood to save lives!

MISSION SUNDAY CHURCH BEYOND THE DOORS

October 29

GLPC Mission Sunday!!

We are very excited about a church-wide mission day scheduled for Sunday, October 29th! This is a special day where we bring a unique focus on the importance of mission and actively participate in various mission efforts. We hope everyone will join us on this! We will have a number of various mission projects - there will be something for *everyone* to participate in. Some projects will be completed inside the church building and others will out in the community. All projects will emphasize and support our efforts to take the gospel "*beyond the doors*" of the church!

FUN & FELLOWSHIP

Bonnie Pankina
fun@grandlakespc.org

WEEKLY EVENTS



Art Fellowship

All are welcome Thursdays, 10am - 1pm (come & go). There is no skill level required! Please bring your own supplies.



Quilters

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

MONTHLY EVENTS



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!



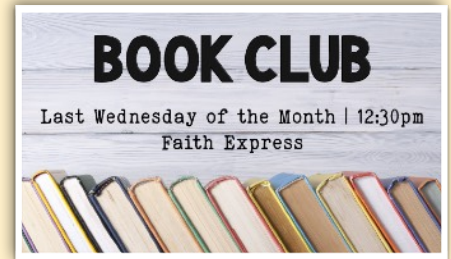
Holy Hops

Relax and connect with us the 2nd Thursday of each month at Local Table for faith based discussion.



Prime Timers

Prime Timers Games Day gathers the first Tuesday of the month from 10:00-12:00pm.



Book Club

Meets the last Wednesday of the month at 12:30 in Faith Express.

ONE-TIME EVENTS



SEPT. 24th : Family Bowling Night

Come for a night filled with bowling and fun Sunday, September 24 from 5:30-7pm at Times Square Entertainment.



NOV. 11th : Family Movie Night

Join us Saturday, November 11 for a movie on the church lawn



GLPC Cookbook

Be on the lookout for news on the publication of our new cookbook!

MEMBERSHIP

Debbie Deluca
membership@grandlakespc.org

WELCOME OUR NEWEST MEMBERS!

It is my honor to present the following new members to the Grand Lakes Presbyterian Church family!



Long time visitor Gracie Myers has also become an official member. We are so glad you are with us.



Ron & Patricia Orr have joined by transferring membership from Faith Methodist Church in Richmond, TX. Glad you found us!



Robert Harmond is our youngest new member. He has been very active in the youth group for many years and wanted to make his membership official!



Our newest members are Sylvanus Golomeke and Shirley Krah along with their children Sasha, Stefan, and Sachi. They are transferring their membership from the Garrison Presbyterian Church in Accra, Ghana. We are thrilled you are a part of our church family!



Chad & Lorna Jennische along with their children Jack and Margaret are transferring their membership from St. Mark Lutheran in Houston, TX. Welcome to the family!

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, by emailing our membership team, or call the church office at 281-646-7500.

Our church mourns the loss of our family members:

David Fortier 6/23/23

MINISTRY HAPPENINGS

We Are Implementing a New Structure For Our Deacon Ministry!

We have a wonderful church family, and we want to foster a growing sense of community. To support this aim, beginning in September, each of our deacons will be assigned a group of GLPC members. Our deacons will be responsible for praying for those in their group and periodically checking in with them. Should any care needs arise, deacons will work in coordination with the pastor to provide support. This year we have added additional deacon positions to help provide adequate coverage for our membership. We are so grateful for our incredible team of deacons: Carrie Fore, Kathy Spelman, Linda Kershner, Cristina Diaz, Geoff Alldred, Karen Nance, Courtney Astley, and Debbie Nichols.

We Are Also Adding a New Elder Ministry Position!

The Session of our church takes seriously its responsibility to provide spiritual direction for our church. Through discernment and discussions, one decision the Session made was to add a new elder position to focus on outreach and communications. We are excited for Susan Hutson will assume this role later this month!

GIVING THANKS!

We are so thankful for our wonderful elders and deacons who are rolling off from active service:

Deacons: *Emily Trivette and Claudia Dempsey*

Elders: *Joseph Myers and David Shafer*

THANK YOU ALL!!!



We also want to give a special word of thanks to our incredible Office Administrator, Eve Schaefer! Eve came on staff at GLPC in July of 2022 and since day one she has been absolutely amazing! Eve does so much behind the scenes and always goes above and beyond. Not to mention that she is a joy to work with. We are so blessed to have her!

Eve's son, Luke, has also been an awesome helper around GLPC! He frequently helps in so many ways - he and Eve even helped with our Vacation Bible School this summer!

Eve and Luke - Thank you so much for all you do!!

GLPC FACILITIES

Anthony Badalamenti
Facilities@grandlakespc.org

Some great things have been happening around our facility this Summer.

Beyond the regular (and sometimes headaches) of regular building maintenance, we continue to make efforts to ensure that our facility is a safe place to together. To that purpose we have installed a front door video/intercom system that allows our staff and volunteers to remotely allow people to enter the building while keeping the building secure. If you come to the church during office hours, all you have to do is press the button and we can buzz you in! Also, if you are leading a group that meets after office hours, you can take a tablet with you to your meeting space and buzz people in your group in as they arrive. That way the building can stay secure while you meet!



We have also been working on making our spaces better suited to serve our ministries:

- **Club 45 Room:** Jessica and the Children's Ministry has been repurposing and remodeling Room 210 to be our new Club 45 room! Club 45 is focused on 4th and 5th graders, providing them with age appropriate teaching and activities. Club 45 also serves as a wonderful way for children to transition to Youth group!
- **Youth Room:** The Youth Ministry has been working hard to renovate the Youth Room to better support our ministry efforts. We completely changed the look and feel of the room. We have also added new tables and stools and there is still more changes to come!
- **Library:** We have also cleaned and reorganized our Library room to be a more functional space! We still have more to do, but what once was used as storage is now a great space to meet!



FINANCE & STEWARDSHIP

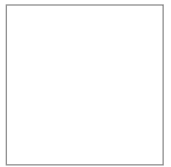
David Shafer
Finance@grandlakespc.org

For the last few months our finance team has been busy working on refinancing our loans. You may remember that due to dramatically rising interest rates, our current loan rates were nearing a reset which would add a great financial burden to our operating budget. We are happy to say that we have officially closed on our new loan which is a huge blessing. We continue to face challenges with rising costs of insurance, utilities, etc... but thanks to the continued strong giving we are managing well!





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.

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!