

# Grace Weekly Email Update

May 13, 2026

## Message from JD Cunny (Associate Pastor)



### **Pentecost Potluck:**

#### **A Celebration of the Spirit and the Family of God**

Grace family, we invite you to join us for a special Pentecost Potluck on Sunday, May 24, at 11:00am in the Student Ministry Building as we celebrate one of the great days in the life of the Church. **On that Sunday, we will combine our two modern worship services, 9:30am and 11:00am, into one service at 10:00am. Our 8:30am traditional service and Monday night service will remain the same.**

Pentecost is the day we remember the giving of the Holy Spirit in Acts 2. After Jesus' death, resurrection, and ascension, the disciples were gathered together in Jerusalem when the Spirit came like a rushing wind and filled God's people with power to witness, worship, and live as a new-creation community. Pentecost reminds us that the Church was never meant to live by human strength alone. We are formed, filled, and sent by the Holy Spirit.

So what better way to celebrate than by gathering around the table? After the 10:00am worship service, we will share a church-wide potluck meal together. Grace will provide the meat, including turkey, ham, pulled pork, and chicken tenders. We are asking families to bring a dish that will feed about 15 people. You are welcome to bring an appetizer, buns, chips, a side dish, salad, or dessert. Roasted potatoes, mashed potatoes, banana pudding, or any favorite family dish would be great options. To see what others have signed up to bring, you can visit the Meal Train by clicking [HERE](#). You can also reach out to JD at [JD@gracefs.com](mailto:JD@gracefs.com) or 479-806-8711 with any questions.

We will have warmers and refrigerator space available, so you are welcome to drop off your hot or cold dish in the Student Ministry Building before service.

Bring a dish to share, come ready to enjoy good food and fellowship, and take time to connect with others in our Grace family. Whether you bring food or simply come and join us, there is a place for you at the table.

This meal is more than just food. It is a picture of what Pentecost reminds us: God is creating a people from every background and every walk of life, united in Christ and empowered by the Spirit.

We hope you will make plans to stay after service and celebrate with us. Come hungry, come expectant, and come ready to give thanks for the gift of the Holy Spirit and the family God is building among us.:

God Bless,

JD

## **WORSHIP SERVICE — May 17 & 18**

### **Traditional (8:30am Sunday)**

Hymns: My Worth Is Not In What I Own  
Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior

### **Modern (9:30 & 11:00am Sunday, 6pm Monday)**

Songs: I Believe; Evidence  
Jesus Be the Name; The Lord Will Provide

**Live Stream @ 9:30am Sunday: [Facebook](#) & [YouTube](#)**

**Past Sermons/Materials: [Click HERE](#).**

# KIDS MINISTRY

Jr. Kids: Infants—PreK Contact: [Christine Turpin](#)

Kids Church K-5th Grade Contact: [Sarah Reykers](#)



**Jr. Kids Theme:**

**Our series for summer is GIANTS!**

We face many Giants in life, like Loneliness, Fear, and Shame. But our God is greater than them all. As the life of David shows us, when we put our Faith, Hope and Love in God, He will give us the power to defeat any giant.

*Memory verse: "My faithful God, answer me when I call out to you. Give me rest from my trouble. Have mercy on me. Hear my prayer." Psalm 4:1*



**Kids Church K-5th Grade: Simply Loved—Where Kids Experience God's Greatest Gift**

**VBS: "WHAT A MESS"**

**Sun-Wed, June 7-10**

**5:30-8:00PM**

**K-5th Grade**

**Register [HERE](#).**



**VBS Service Project:**

**CHANGE DRIVE**

**Starts NOW!**

**Winner: Becomes Human Ice Cream Sundae**

Jeff, Sarah, Braden and Christine will have jars with their picture on them...whoever has the most change on the last night of VBS, will become a **human ice cream sundae!**

Funds collected in the CHANGE DRIVE will go toward kids activities at the Community Rescue Mission.

**Need Volunteers + Towels**

What A Mess VBS is underway! Sign up [HERE](#) to volunteer. Have questions? Text (479-414-2071) or email [Sarah!](#) Also, looking for donations of old towels.

**Return Dates of Items from  
"paint splat" from the "VBS needs wall":**

**NON-FOOD ITEMS DUE NOW.**

**FOOD ITEMS DUE JUNE 1.**

## DASH & FM

(6-8th grades) & (9-12th grades)

Contact [Dana](#) For DASH and FM

Dash/FM Page on Grace Website—Click [HERE](#)



### Join Us on Wednesday Evenings 6-7:30pm

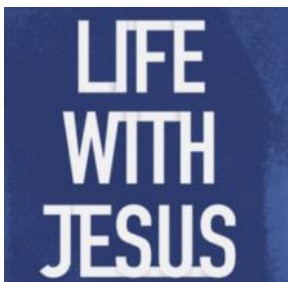
During the school year, DASH and FM meet routinely every Wednesday from 6-7:30pm. We have dinner, games, worship, biblical lessons, and small groups. Small groups are split by grade level and male/female.

**FYI: LAST REGULAR WEDNESDAY NIGHT YOUTH IS MAY 20.**



### Summer Fun Begins

Click [HERE](#) for full details of summer activities.



### Getting Serious in Scripture: Life with Jesus June 7 - September 20 Sundays, 10:45am-Noon

Any Youth interested in truly gaining more Bible knowledge and living your life

for Christ, PLEASE join us !!!

This summer, we're diving deeper into what it really means to follow Jesus. "**Getting Serious in Scripture: Life with Jesus**" is a youth class focused on understanding God's Word, asking real questions, growing in faith, and learning how to live out the teachings of Jesus in everyday life.

Whether you're new to reading the Bible or ready to go deeper, this class is for you. Come ready for meaningful conversations, practical lessons, and a chance to grow closer to God together.

Bring your Bible, invite a friend, and join us this summer as we get serious about Scripture and discover life with Jesus.

Sign up [HERE](#).

# CONNECT

Contact [JD Cunny](#) for any questions.

**BIBLE STUDIES:** Full details & sign-ups click [HERE](#).



**The Journey from Easter to Pentecost**  
Wednesdays, April 8-May 20, 6-7pm (7wks)  
Ezra Room-Kids Church; Co-Ed Bible Study  
Facilitator: JD Cunny & Terry Gallamore

This group has already started, but feel free to join us for a class at any time. We move from resurrection hope to Spirit-empowered living.



**New Connections Class**  
Sundays, 11am-12noon, Started May 3 (6 wks)  
Facilitators: Staci Moore & Amy Sweeten

Our New Connections Class is a welcoming space to connect with others, learn more about our church, and a chance dive deeper into what we believe. Whether you're new to Grace or just want a deeper understanding of our mission, this class is the perfect place to start! Click [HERE](#) to sign up!



**Lunch for Widows & Widowers**  
**TOMORROW....Thursday, May 14**  
12noon-1p, Activity Center

Join other widows and widowers for lunch on Thursday, May 14, for a discussion on "What Now? Considerations after Widowhood." Whether you became a widow or widower months ago or many years ago, this discussion will help you think through some important legal and personal things that everyone needs to consider. It will also be a great time to meet other people at Grace. Lunch is free but we ask that you sign up so that we have space and food for all. Sign up [HERE](#).

Click [HERE](#) for details of **ON-GOING GROUPS**

- Upper Room (Women) **May 20**
- By Hook, Needle & Craft (Women and Men) **May 21**
- Men's Fellowship Lunch (Men) **June 4**

## EVENTS



**Mark Your Calendars:**  
[Grace Waterpark Night](#)  
Friday, July 24  
Pizza served at 6:30pm  
Park open to us from 7-9pm



**Selah Weekend**  
Church Wide **FAMILY** Retreat  
October 2-4, 2026 (Fri—Sun)  
Ozark Natural Science Center,  
Huntsville, AR

Selah is a church-wide retreat designed for every age! Join us for a full weekend of activities focused on rest, relaxation, and renewal. Check out full details and to sign up, click [HERE](#).

# SERVE

Contact [Michelle Thomas](#) for more information on local mission efforts.  
Contact [Kathleen Halliburton](#) for more information on mission efforts outside of our community.



## MEN—CLEAN OUT YOUR CLOSET!

The Next Step Homeless Services is in need of men's jeans, sizes 32 to 34 waist. Also needed: shoes for walking for both men and women; can be gently used. Donations of men or women's underwear is needed (only new). We will have a collection box in the Worship Center lobby to collect items. Please contact Jeanne Carroll for more information.



## Foster Care Awareness Month.

Visit The CALL in the foyer May 17 to learn more about what they do, how you can help, and needs in our community. Contact Jeanne Harvey for more information.



## Love to Cook? Local Mission Opportunities Available

1. Community Rescue Mission Meal Prep and Serving

Thursday, May 21, 4:30-6:30pm

Contact Carol Kirby for more information.

2. Ronald McDonald House Meal Prep

Thursday, May 28, 2:00-4:30 pm, Team 1

Contact Susie Hill for more information.



## June – Mark your calendars for Ministry Partner Events!

1. Heart to Heart Pregnancy and Family Care Center offers the Heart of the Mission Event at Kay Rodgers Park, Saturday, June 13, 10:00-2:00. [Heart of the Fort—A Family Fun Day!](#)
2. [World Changers](#) Lunches: Grace Community Church is providing lunches for 2 working crews of people in our area, June 16-19.



## Blood Drive, Sunday, May 31, 8a-12p Student Ministry Building

“Love your neighbor as yourself” takes many forms and this is a simple way to live it out. Join us for our church blood

drive and help bring hope and healing to those in need. Our community is in desperate need for blood and we want to do our part! If you have any question please contact [Michelle Thomas](#). Click [HERE](#) to sign up for a time slot.



## Eight Days of Hope Buffalo, NY Outreach July 18-25, 2026

Sign-Up Deadline: May 15

Click [HERE](#) for full details and to sign up.

# MENTAL HEALTH MINISTRY

Contact [Rick](#) for more information.



**Mental Health**  
*Ministry*

Are you concerned about your personal mental health or that of a family member? Do you struggle with knowing who you can talk to? Do you carry the common concerns that others cannot know? Perhaps you are ready to discuss it, but are just not sure what the best next step is? Talk to our mental health expert. The form is confidential.

Scan this QR code or go to [FranklinCommunityHealth.org](#)

Once the form is received, the director will contact you to set-up a confidential meeting to further understand your needs and assist in the options for your personal next steps.

[Meet Our Team](#)  
[Mental Health Resources](#)  
[Mental Health Page](#)

Message from Rick Ralston, MS, LAC, NCC  
Director of Mental Health Ministries

To read the article click [HERE](#).

## OTHER



### Items Needed for VBS Decorations

We are looking for the following items to use as decorations for VBS this year. If you want your item(s) returned, be sure to write your name on it.

old paint cans  
paint brushes (used & new)  
paint rollers & trays  
spray paint  
drop clothes  
easels  
water color sets  
paint palette

Drop off items at the kids  
check-in area or at the  
church office.

# PRAYER

If you have prayer needs, please submit request [HERE](#).

## Community & World

Unsaved

United States

Countries in Turmoil

All Military

Foster and Adoptive Parents

Victims of Violence

Weather Disaster Victims

Eight Days of Hope Ministry

Those who are sick

Those struggling w/mental illness & addictions

Those struggling with grief

Christians in Nigeria

## Grace Families

Barbara Braswell

Ron Adams

Mary Carter

## Grace Friends

Dillon Lewis

Savanna Schaffer & Baby Reese

James Virgil (Bill James friend)

Collin Douglas (Bill James friend)

## Sympathies

Karla & Terry Gallamore; Marilyn Tiefenbrun  
(death of Karla and Marilyn's sister)



### **Grace Community Church**

4001 Brooken Hill Dr. / Fort Smith, AR 72908 / 479.646.1177

Email: [contact@gracefs.com](mailto:contact@gracefs.com) / Office Hours: 9-5 Monday-Thursday

**Website: [www.gracefs.com](http://www.gracefs.com)**

*Grace Community Church exists for the glory of God,  
to make visible the kingdom of God, and  
to declare the grace of God to all the world.*