

grace notes

GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH • JUNE 2026

“God is calling the church to continue embodying Christ, no matter where we find ourselves in time.”



Meet Rev. Colton Hedrick

The Pastor Nominating Committee of Grace Presbyterian Church has worked diligently to discern the will of God throughout every stage of the interview and selection process for our new Pastor and Head of Staff. After nearly a year of prayer, conversation, and discernment, we are pleased to wholeheartedly welcome Rev. Colton Hedrick to the members of GPC.

Many in our congregation may already know Colton from his time serving GPC as our summer seminary intern under Rev. Thom Lamb in 2024. During that season, Colton participated in worship planning, preaching, teaching, mission work, pastoral care, and church leadership experiences - allowing many of us to get to know him and to witness his gifts firsthand.

We are also excited to introduce his wife, Caitlin Hedrick, who was a former member of First Presbyterian Church before they married. Together, they bring warmth, authenticity, joy, and a deep love for community to GPC.

Colton completed his Master of Divinity (MDiv) degree at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary last month. While he is early in his ordained ministry journey, Colton brings years of meaningful, hands-on ministry experience in worship leadership, preaching, mission outreach, pastoral care, teaching, volunteer development, youth ministry, and church leadership across multiple congregations.

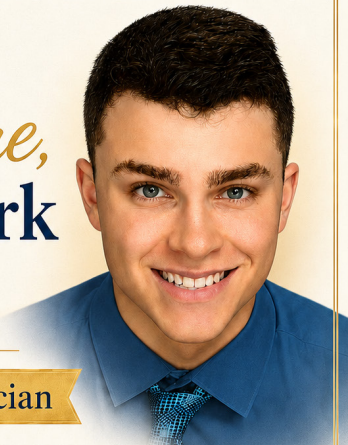
Through the GPC Mission Study and discernment process, Grace Presbyterian Church expressed a desire for a pastor who is collaborative, joyful, mission-minded, grounded in theology, engaging in worship, committed to community connection, and passionate about spiritual growth across generations. Throughout this process, those qualities were consistently reflected in Colton's gifts, experience, and vision for ministry.



Faith Rooted in Worship, Grace & Community

- **Worship & Preaching:** Experienced in both liturgical and contemporary worship leadership, with a strong belief that worship shapes how we live out our faith every day.
- **Mission & Community Engagement:** Passionate about meaningful service that honors human dignity and builds authentic relationships with the wider community.
- **Teaching & Spiritual Formation:** Enjoys teaching theology, Bible studies, confirmation classes, and intergenerational learning opportunities.
- **Relational Leadership:** Known for collaboration, creativity, warmth, and bringing joy and connection into church life.
- **Future-Focused Faith:** Embraces the Reformed tradition while encouraging the church to continue growing, learning, and responding to God's call in today's world.

Welcome, John Mark Gary!



New A/V Technician



John Mark Gary is a 2025 graduate of Temple High School, where he excelled in academics and fine arts. He graduated in the top 10% of the class, earned a fine arts endorsement, and earned CMA certification.

- Excellent violinist and singer
- Passionate about music, films, video games, and animals

In the future, John Mark is considering joining the military and pursuing a career as a first responder. He is also the son of Jonathan and Emily Gary.



We are blessed to have you on our team!

Welcome!

GPC Presbyterian Women June Circles

During June, Circles will meet for the final lesson in our current study, Lesson 9, "When You are Walking with Jesus: the road to Emmaus." It promises to be a wonderful conclusion to a study that has helped us to learn from each other as we study scripture and share our life's journeys in faith.

And as always, visitors and circle members will be warmly welcomed as follows:

EVENING CIRCLE

First Tuesday of the month
at 6 p.m. at Julie Benner's house.

MORNING CIRCLE

Second Tuesday of the month
at 9:30 a.m. in the GPC conference room.

JENNIE SHULL CIRCLE

Third Thursday of the month
at 12 noon in the GPC conference room.

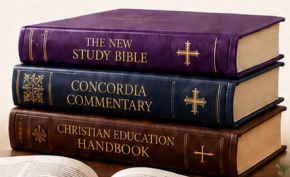
Welcome Natasha Slaughter



Grace Presbyterian Church
welcomes
Natasha Slaughter

Director of
Christian Education
Ministries

- 15+ years of education experience
- 5th Grade ELAR Teacher & Team Lead, Temple ISD
- Passionate about helping children and youth grow in **faith and learning**
- Strengths in **curriculum, leadership, communication,** and supporting diverse learners
- Will help lead Sunday School, LOGOS, VBS, youth, and family ministries



We are delighted to welcome Natasha!

FIRST SUNDAY Family FELLOWSHIP LUNCH

Sun, June 7th • 12 PM
(DIRECTLY AFTER WORSHIP)

PLACE:
BOLD REPUBLIC
7070 STONEHOLLOW DR.
TEMPLE, TX 76502

*KIDS UNDER 12
EAT FREE
WITH THE PURCHASE OF
AN ADULT ENTREE.

ALL FAMILIES WITH
CHILDREN AND YOUTH
ARE INVITED TO FELLOWSHIP
WITH OTHER GPC FAMILIES
FOR LUNCH AND FUN!

Dutch Treat

COME HUNGRY. LEAVE ENCOURAGED.
≡ *We can't wait to see you there!* ≡



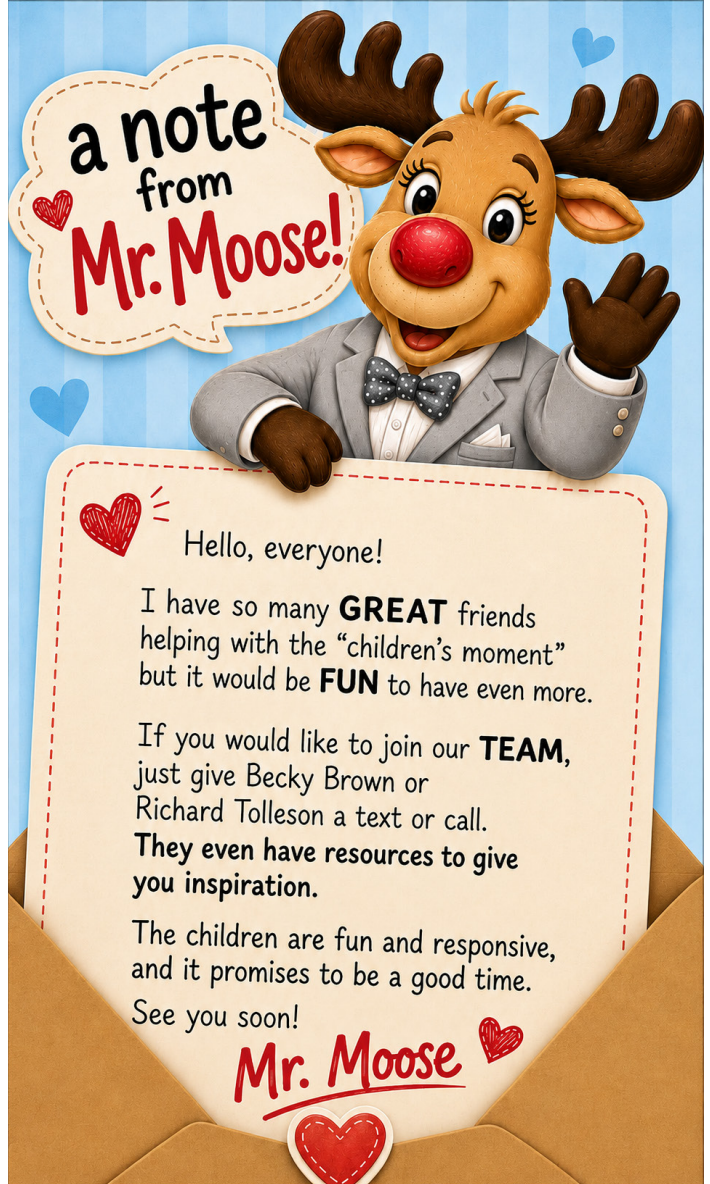
“Extra Love” Member

for June

is
John Roberts

8800 HARTRICK BLUFF RD.
TEMPLE, TX 76502

Let's shower him with cards and notes of *love*, *faith*, and *encouragement*.



a note from
Mr. Moose!

Hello, everyone!

I have so many **GREAT** friends helping with the “children’s moment” but it would be **FUN** to have even more.

If you would like to join our **TEAM**, just give Becky Brown or Richard Tolleson a text or call. **They even have resources to give you inspiration.**

The children are fun and responsive, and it promises to be a good time. See you soon!

Mr. Moose



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| 1 Roger Swaim | 17 Beryl Lawn |
| 1 Sharon Lightfoot | 17 Kim Gaddy |
| 1 Wendy Wright | 18 Pat Wurster |
| 4 Debbie Englund | 19 Debra Jackson |
| 6 Dixie Loy | 20 Mei Hua Burns |
| 6 Luke Hermann | 24 Nancy Follender |
| 6 Mike Englund | 25 Carolyn Jackson |
| 9 Andrine Kagu | 25 Julian Graner |
| 9 Tom Stringfellow | 27 Alyssa Nickerson |
| 10 Mikayla Burres | 27 Caydn Quinn |
| 12 Linda Eskelin | 27 Juana Mari Ethridge |
| 13 Lana Slaughter | 27 Margaret Wright |
| 14 Kirk Kirkley | 28 Arthur Kowalkowski |
| 14 Sam Wilds | 28 Charlotte Stern |
| 15 Kyle Nickerson | 30 Natasha Tolleson |
| 16 Peg Spangler | |



NURSERY CARE

**NURSERY CARE FOR
INFANTS – PRE-K CHILDREN
IS AVAILABLE DURING BOTH
OUR WORSHIP SERVICE
& SUNDAY SCHOOL**



Grace CHURCH
TEMPLE, TEXAS

SUMMER CHOIR!

*Sing.
Serve.
Shine.*

Join us for joyful worship through song this summer!

MAY 31, JUNE 7, 14, 21, 28

WE MEET ON SUNDAYS:
Rehearse at **10am** before worship, then sing in worship.

NO WEDNESDAY EVENING REHEARSALS

INVITE YOUR FRIENDS!

MEN'S BREAKFAST

SATURDAY, JUNE 20 9 AM

★ FAITH. FELLOWSHIP. FOOD. ★

The "Men of Grace" meet the **third Saturday** of each month for breakfast and a speaker in the Fellowship Hall.

★ **Speaker: Luke Hermann** ★

★ **BRING A FRIEND!** ★



QUESTIONS?
Email Stan or Bob if you have any questions.

ONE HOME, ONE FAMILY, ONE HEART AT A TIME.

JUNE 2026 GOALS

	BUILD 30 HOMES	\$3,000 EACH
	CONSTRUCT 15 CHICKEN COOPS	\$500 EACH
	PROVIDE 60 FRESH WATER TANKS	\$200 EACH
	FUND EDUCATION FOR HIGH SCHOOL AGE YOUTH	\$3,500 PER YEAR

ANY GIVEN AMOUNT IS A BLESSING.

ZELLE: mizpahwidows@gmail.com
PAYPAL: mizpahwidowprojects
VENMO: @Mizpah-widows
CHECKS: Mizpah Ministries International
 P.O. BOX 572
 Norco, CA 92860

PSALMS 41:1-2

Happy are those who consider the poor. The Lord delivers them in the day of trouble. The Lord protects them and keeps them alive. They are called happy in the land. You do not give them up to the will of their enemies.

Grace PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
TEMPLE, TEXAS

MISSION Trip

ARKANSAS

JUNE 7-12
SERVE. LOVE. GROW.
Faith in Action.

- HANDS-ON SERVICE
- FELLOWSHIP
- WORSHIP
- SPIRITUAL GROWTH

REPRESENTING GPC THIS YEAR:

- ANNIE NICKERSON
- ALYSSA NICKERSON
- CASSIE NICKERSON
- CAMDYNN STEPHENS
- RILYNN STEPHENS

CHAPERONES:

- MARTHA TABLERLET
- DAN & DEBBIE STEPHENS

Please keep our youth and leaders in your prayers as they prepare for this meaningful week of service, connection, and faith in action. We look forward to hearing about their experiences when they return!

JOIN YOUR GPC FRIENDS

for
OPENING NIGHT
of

OKLAHOMA!

★ THURSDAY, JUNE 18TH ★
AT TEMPLE CIVIC THEATRE

We'd like to meet there early
so we can all get our seats together!

We can meet there anytime between

6:30 AND 7:15 P.M.



Curtain rises at

7:30 P.M. ★

♥ HOW TO JOIN US: ♥

STEP 1

Sign up
IN THE NARTHEX



STEP 2

Buy your
TICKETS



★ Request GPC
preferred seating!

STEP 3

Arrive early
6:30 TO 7:15 P.M.



CURTAIN RISES AT
★ **7:30 P.M.** ★

RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN'S
OKLAHOMA!

A timeless classic. A night to remember!

★ QUESTIONS? CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE. ★

Backpack Buddies

Presbyterian Women's Fundraiser

Help local children start the school year with the supplies they need to succeed.

\$40 = 1 Backpack Filled with Supplies
Give in increments of \$40

WE NEED YOUR HELP!
Fundraiser Ends **June 30**

So far, we have received enough donations for **39 backpacks!**
51 backpacks shy of our goal

Goal: 90 backpacks for local students whose families are financially "at risk."

3 EASY WAYS TO GIVE:

- Drop in the offering plate
- Mail or deliver to the church office
- Leave in Amy's mailbox (hallway behind office)

Please pray for our success and help us help **ALL** our local school kids build themselves a better future.

Please give generously!

PARENT'S NIGHT OUT

WILL NOT BE HELD DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS:
JUNE, JULY & AUGUST
WILL RESUME IN SEPTEMBER!

See you then!

TEXT TO GIVE

Did you know you can give by text? Simply text the word GRACE to 254.400.2420 or click on the QR code

Thank you for being a cheerful giver!

1st Quarter Giving Statements

AVAILABLE IN THE NARTHEX, PICK UP YOURS TODAY!

PENNIES FOR Mom's


First Sunday of Each Month | June 7th


Please place coins in the offering plate to donate to

Hope Mommies

a faith-based organization which helps bereaved mothers.


FEED MY SHEEP


 **TUESDAY, JUNE 23RD**


 **1:30 P.M.**
Making Casseroles

 **5:30 P.M.**
Making Sandwiches


 **WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24TH**

 **12:00 NOON**
Go to Feed My Sheep
to Serve

 GPC supports this mission by helping cook casseroles on Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m.,

 making sandwiches and packing cold lunches at 5:30 p.m.,

 donating cookies/brownies,

 or serving lunch on Wednesdays at Feed My Sheep.



DONATIONS AND VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR THIS MISSION.



Do you have an ANNOUNCEMENT?

 If you would like an announcement made, please send all information to the church office via email @ office@gpctemple.org and Amy will include your announcement in church publications as needed.

 We would like to streamline announcements so that our announcement time in worship is organized and efficient.

 The liturgist of the day will be the **only person** who will make verbal announcements from the pulpit moving forward.

Thank you!



GPC Elders 2026

<p> Clerk of Session</p> <p> Ann Edmondson</p>	<p> Christian Education</p> <p> A'Lisa Ozment</p> <p> Millie Henn</p>
<p> Finance & Stewardship</p> <p> Tom Stringfellow</p> <p> Katie Shull</p>	<p> Worship & Music</p> <p> Richard Tolleson</p> <p> Becky Brown</p>
<p> Membership</p> <p> Margie McLoud</p>	<p> Personnel</p> <p> Patti Smith</p>
<p> Mission & Outreach</p> <p> Sarah Nickerson</p> <p> Bob Shull</p>	<p> Property & Technology</p> <p> John Burns</p> <p> David Salzman</p>



GPC Presbyterian Women

EARLY BIRD SPECIAL PRICING!

Our Budget Allows Us To Offer

2026-2027 Study Guides

FOR JUST

\$10 A BOOK!

Final Deadline for our Pre-Order Bargain Price

June 30th

We'd love for you to join us!

To reserve your study guide, please email your Circle Chair to confirm your pre-order by June 30th.



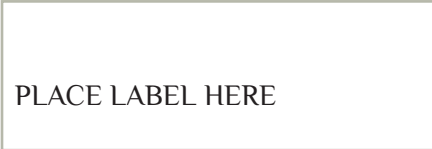
GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2401 S. 57th Street

Temple, TX 76504



IN PERSON & ONLINE WORSHIP:
9:30AM SUNDAY SCHOOL
10:30AM COFFEE FELLOWSHIP
11 AM WORSHIP
CHILDCARE AVAILABLE



Watch our services on YouTube, Facebook or our website.

Click the links above or visit us:

Facebook: @gpctemple • Online: www.gpctemple.org



GPC STAFF

Rev. Colton Hedrick, MDiv
Pastor, Head of Staff
C.Hedrick@gpctemple.org

Chelsea Stern
Minister of Music
C.Stern@gpctemple.org

Emily Gary
Pianist/Accompanist
E.Gary@gpctemple.org

Dr. Jonathan Gary
Organist
J.Gary@gpctemple.org

Josh Essary
Handbell Choir Director
J.Essary@gpctemple.org

John Mark Gary
A/V Technician
JM.Gary@gpctemple.org

Natasha Slaughter
Dir. of Christian Education
N.Slaughter@gpctemple.org

Amy Graner
Office Administrator
Office@gpctemple.org

Katherine Krska
Financial Administrator
Accounting@gpctemple.org

Jane Nance
Child Care Coordinator
J.Nance@gpctemple.org

Adele Parker
Sexton
A.Parker@gpctemple.org

Grace Presbyterian Church
Phone: 254.773.2134

Current office hours:
Monday - Thursday
8 AM - 4 PM