



GRACE *notes*

GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH • FEBRUARY 2026



Dear brothers and sisters,

The season of Lent, of course, is the 40 days of preparation prior to Easter. It begins on Ash Wednesday, this year, on Feb 18th. We often hear about “*giving something up for Lent*”. The practice is intended to help us turn away from whatever has distracted us from God and help us turn back. It is an acknowledgement that we have accumulated much which can so easily keep us from worshiping God purely.

Often the things we then **GIVE UP FOR LENT** are some small pleasure or indulgence like chocolate, soda, coffee, or some other tempting food in our lives, or maybe a bad habit such as smoking or complaining. Giving these up may be a positive turning our life back towards what God wants for us.

However, since the goal of Lent is to grow in some way in our relationship with God, we may need to do something else, something different such as to “*train ourselves spiritually*” (i.e. to get in spiritual shape). Maybe then during these weeks before Easter, we should pick a gospel and simply read a chapter a day. We might pray the Psalms or engage in contemplative prayer with techniques such as Examin or Lectio Devina. As Henri Nouwen says, “*Spiritually reading allows the divine Word to be continually incarnated within us.*” Maybe we should take daily walks, noting the beauty of the world around us. Possibly taking time to daily encourage and be a blessing to someone is what is needed to tone and hone our spiritual selves. We might pledge to offer a word of thanks to every store clerk or soldier, nurse, teacher or caretaker we meet. Whatever we do, we need to do it steadfastly until Easter morning.

These are things that we can **TAKE UP** rather than or in addition to **GIVING UP** for Lent. If we heed them, in the end, we will surely find that we have been spiritually changed, and that we have had our hearts opened in order that the good news might take new root.



Have a good Lent.

-Rev. Naomi Ingram

We are pleased to welcome and introduce to you our new Office Administrator, Amy Graner! Amy is a highly qualified individual, having spent over 15 years in administrative support and front-office operations. She has an Associate of Applied Science degree in Digital Media Design and most recently served as the Office Administrator and Receptionist for Harper-Talasek Funeral Home in Belton. The skills, training and experience she brings in addition to her intelligence, warmth and passion for serving others will certainly allow her to work well in this critical role for Grace Presbyterian Church. Amy plans on being in the office 8am-5pm, M-Th, reserving the last hour each day as uninterrupted time to wrap up her work.



In addition to knowing her in her work capacity, you may enjoy knowing that Amy is first and foremost a wife and mother but also considers herself an artist at heart, enjoying painting and creating collage art. She LOVES to sing and is, with intention, now developing a green thumb and enjoying the outdoors more going for walks around the lake and taking time to slow down and unplug.

PLEASE MAKE TO SURE TO OFFER AMY A BIG GPC “WELCOME”!

Below is a letter to the Grace Presbyterian Church family from Amy!

Hello! My name is Amy Graner, and I am grateful for the opportunity to serve here at Grace as the Office Administrator. From the moment I walked through the doors, I felt a sense of warmth, kindness, and genuine community, and I am honored to be a part of it.

My family and I live in Belton, Texas. I share life with my husband of 20 years, Brandon, and our 16-year-old son, Julian, and family is very important to me. I am thankful for the love, support, and sense of belonging that faith and community bring into our lives. I have a heart for serving others and am excited to get to know you all better while supporting the ministry and mission of Grace Presbyterian Church. Thank you for the warm welcome, I am truly glad to be here.

 -Amy

CHILDREN/YOUTH

PARENT'S NIGHT OUT is Friday, **February 6 from 5:30-8:30PM** • PNO occurs on the first Friday night of each month and is for families who are members of the church or frequent attendees and for their children (infants 6 weeks - grade 5). Childcare is provided by our GPC Nursery staff. **Register by February 4, on our website.** *Children need to be fed before dropping off. If you need to feed them dinner at church please use the Fellowship Hall. Thank you!



Nursery Care for infants – Pre-K children is available during both our worship service and Sunday school.



LOGOS - Start up is **February 4**, and will run through May 13 (excluding Feb 18, Mar 18, and Apr 1). LOGOS meets 5:30-7PM every Wednesday. See you then!

First Sunday Family Fellowship - February 1 • (following worship) • We will meet at Mod Pizza (2102 S 31st St #160, Temple) • All families with children and youth are invited to fellowship with other GPC families for lunch and fun! (Dutch treat)

YOUTH EVENTS (grades 6-12):

Feed My Sheep youth project is Saturday, **February 7** from 9AM-12PM

Also, a 'Thrifting' for **Feed My Sheep** tiny home on Saturday, February 14, from 9AM-12PM. For questions, contact Maddie Clark at maddiebeadell@gmail.com.

MO RANCH 2026 is coming up **Memorial Day Weekend** (May 22-25)

Come and join us for a great family getaway on the banks of the Guadalupe River for... **FELLOWSHIP, COMMUNITY, LEGACY, & TRADITION!**

COST: Adults: \$160pp, 18 yrs & under: \$50PP • covers 3 nights



SPONSOR a child by donating \$75 • **SEND A KID TO MO RANCH!**

FEED MY SHEEP

February 24, 25

GPC supports this mission by helping cook casseroles on Tuesdays at 1:30 pm, making sandwiches & packing cold lunches at 5:30 pm, donating cookies/brownies, or serving lunch on Wednesdays at FMS. Donations and volunteers are needed for this mission.



MEN OF GRACE



All men are welcome to our Men's Breakfast on Saturday, February 21 at 9AM! The "Men of Grace" meet the 3rd Saturday of each month for breakfast and a speaker in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a friend! Please come and join us and be part of this growing brotherhood. Questions? Email Stan (stanb4simons@gmail.com) or Bob (bshull612@gmail.com).

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



Join Us for February Bible Study

the Subject is

Joy!

Circle meeting dates and times, their chairpersons and contact information are as follows:

Evening Circle: Meets first Tuesday of the month, 6:00pm, at Julie Benner's home. Contact Julie at bjbenner@att.net

Morning Circle: Meets second Tuesday of the month, 9:30am, in the GPC Conference Room. Contact Pat Wurster at jwurster@hot.rr.com

Jennie Shull Circle: Meets third Thursday of the month, 12:00 noon, in the GPC Conference Room. Contact Patti Smith at pcsmith53@sbc-global.net

MEALS ON WHEELS

WILL YOU SERVE? MOW is in need of cooks to help cook once a month on a Tuesday morning and for regular or substitute drivers to deliver meals. We provide you with the casserole tins and reimbursement for food expenses. Please prayerfully consider helping. For questions or to help, contact Peg Spangler at 254.231.5205





THEATRE NIGHT!

Theatre Night happens Friday, **February 6**, so come join your GPC friends for appetizers, beverages, and great entertainment at Temple Civic Theatre's **Premier of Fences**, August Wilson's powerful exploration of fatherhood, identity and legacy, all seen through the eyes of the Maxson family in the 1950's, as they grapple with the crippling effects of inter-generational conflicts. To join us, enter your name and phone number on the list beneath the poster on the narthex bulletin board, then go online or call Temple Civic Theatre to purchase tickets. Curtain time is 7:30PM, and season ticketholders are invited to appetizers and beverages beginning at 6:30PM that evening.



MISSIONS

PENNIES FOR MOMS - We invite you to participate in this mission program that takes place the **first Sunday of each month (FEBRUARY 1)**. We ask you to place coins in the offering plate to donate to Hope Mommies, a faith-based organization which helps bereaved mothers.



Ash Wednesday Worship

Wednesday, February 18 at 7:00 pm

A Soup Supper will be served beginning at 5:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. All are invited to join us for supper and worship as we begin our Lenten journey together. Childcare will be provided.

Handbell rehearsals are Wednesdays from 6-7PM and Choir Rehearsals are Wednesdays from 7-8PM. For information or questions, contact: Josh Essary, Director of Handbell Ensemble: joshuaessary@gmail.com; Chelsea Stern, Minister of Music: chelsea@gpc-temple.org



Did you know that you can give by text? Simply text the word **GRACE** to 254.400.2420 or take a pic of the QR code here and hit the link to give. Thank you for being a cheerful giver!



GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2401 S. 57th Street

Temple, TX 76504

WWW.GPCTEMPLE.ORG



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

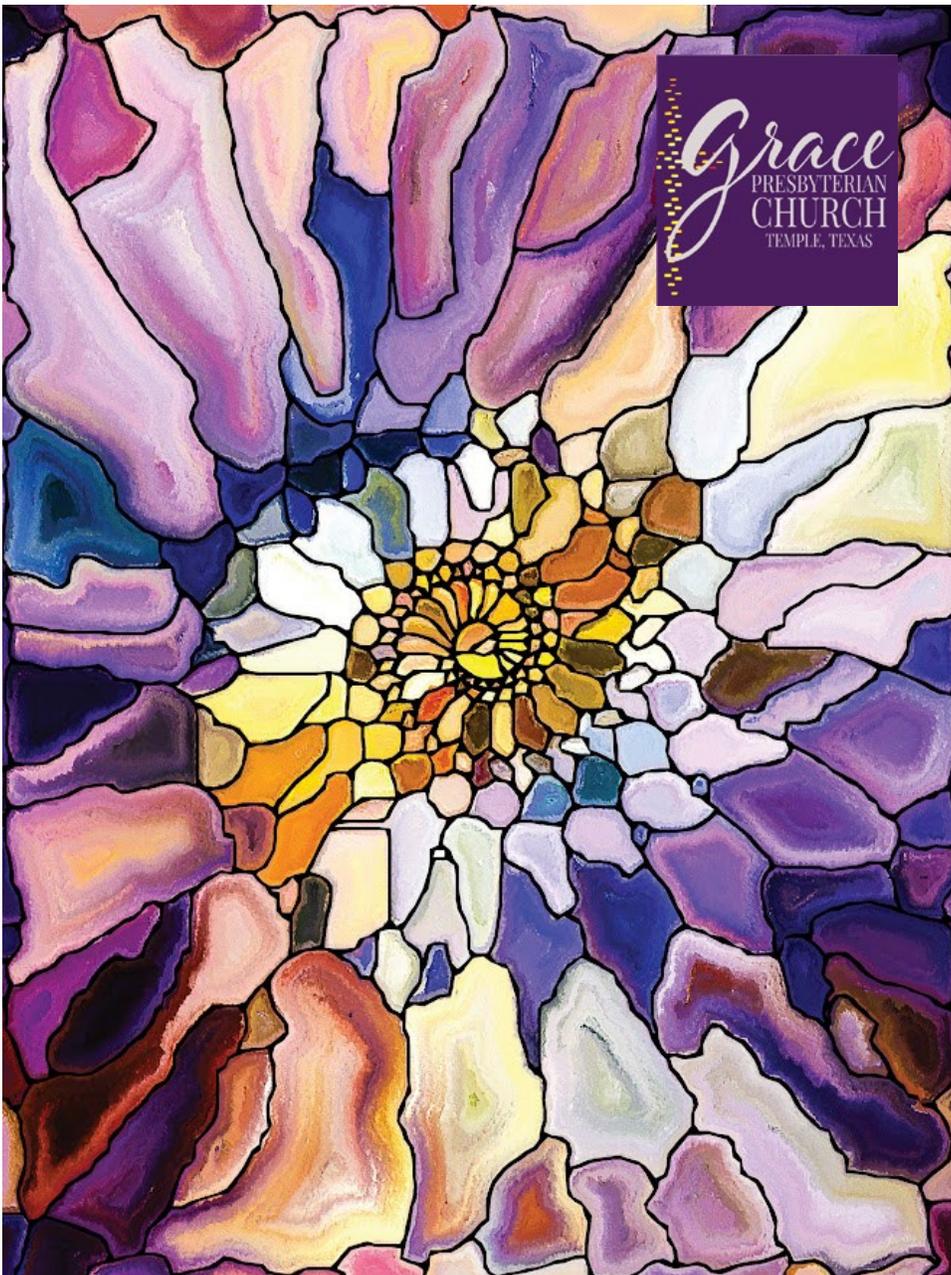


Watch our services on YouTube, Facebook or our website.

Click the links above or visit us:

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PLACE LABEL HERE



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Current office hours:
Mon- Thursdays
8AM- 4PM