VISITOR INFORMATION BOOKLET

Grace Community Church

Sharing the unsearchable riches of our
Lord Jesus Christ in a dry and thirsty land

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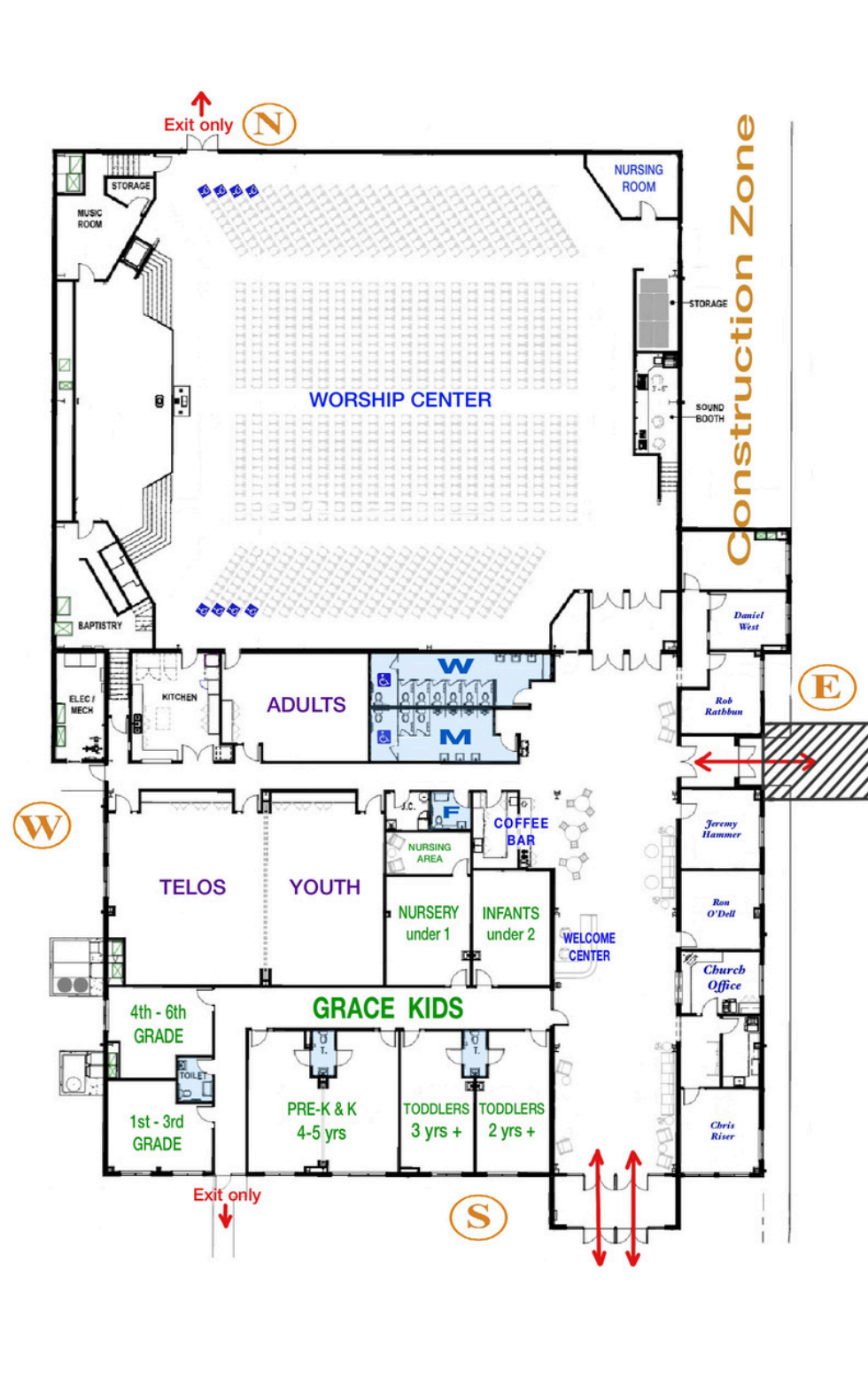
Maryville, TN 37801

www.gracemaryville.org

865.984.0116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STORAGE
MUSIC ROOM
NURSING ROOM
Construction Zone
STORAGE
WORSHIP CENTER
SOUND BOOTH
BAPTISTRY
Daniel West
E
ELEC / MECH
KITCHEN
ADULTS
W
M
Rob Rathbun
W
F
COFFEE BAR
Jeremy Hammer
NURSING AREA
TELOS
YOUTH
NURSERY under 1
INFANTS under 2
WELCOME CENTER
Ron O'Dell
Church Office
GRACE KIDS
4th - 6th GRADE
TOILET
1st - 3rd GRADE
PRE-K & K 4-5 yrs
TODDLERS 3 yrs +
TODDLERS 2 yrs +
Chris Riser
Exit only
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WE WELCOME YOU!

Thank you so much for joining us for worship. We are thankful to the Lord for bringing you to our fellowship. It is our prayer that during your time with us you were challenged to consider God's character and to submit your life to the truth of His Word.

Grace Community Church exists for the glory of God. We believe that all people were created by Him and for Him, to recognize His Son, Jesus Christ, as their Savior and King. We strive to make all areas of our church life "God-centered" so that God might receive the glory He so richly deserves.

We hope that you find this information booklet to be beneficial in outlining our Statement of Faith, objectives, and descriptions of weekly activities. If you are interested in more information, please contact us or visit our website, which is a great resource for our church.

We would be delighted to have you join us again whenever possible. Until then, may you continue to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

"Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and unfathomable His ways! For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who became His counselor? Or who has first given to Him that it might be paid back to Him again? For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever. Amen." Romans 11:33-36

By His Grace,
Chris Riser
Pastor/Teacher
Grace Community Church

WHEN WE MEET

At Grace, we view our times of corporate worship as a precious privilege and a time to experience, while still on earth, a little bit of what heaven will be like. These are vital times in which we teach and admonish one another, build each other up, encourage fellow believers, and stimulate one another to love and good deeds (Col. 3:12-17, Heb. 10:24-25) – all as we directly offer praise, worship, and adoration to our Lord and Savior.

- **Sunday School - 9:00am - 10:00am**

Each Sunday morning we meet to grow in our understanding of, and obedience to, the Word of God.

* Children meet for age-appropriate teaching in the following grade ranges: PreK-K, 1-3, and 4-6. We use a God-centered curriculum (Generations of Grace) which focuses on an expository approach to God's Word with rich application to the lives of children. The curriculum is "unified" in approach which means each age group is taught the same passage of Scripture at an appropriate level. Over a three-year period, each group covers the historical books of the Old Testament, the Life of Christ, Acts, and Revelation.

* Students in grades 7-12 meet together for a time of in-depth study. Our purpose is to help prepare them with a rock-solid Biblical foundation upon which they will build for the rest of their lives. To this end, we rotate through a cycle of: exegetical teaching through books of the Bible, Systematic Theology, OT and NT Survey, and Apologetics and Worldview Studies.

WHEN WE MEET

* Adults meet together for a time of study and encouragement from God's Word. We rotate between the expository teaching of books of the Bible and the presentation of Biblical topics. This is a rich time of teaching, interaction, and encouragement of one another to love and good deeds!

- **Sunday Morning Worship Service - 10:30am**

The purpose of our worship service is to glorify God by praising Him and edifying believers. To this end, we worship through song, public reading of Scripture, prayer, expository preaching, and giving. Our singing is a mix of God-exalting hymns and contemporary songs accompanied by a variety of instruments. Prayer is led each week by the elders.

- **Sunday Fellowship Groups - Various Times**

Sunday afternoon and evening is reserved for a time to break down into smaller groups, meeting in homes to sing, share, and pray with one another. Please see the website or our church app - Church Center - for locations and times. We also spend time studying God's Word and applying it as specifically as possible to our thoughts and actions.

WHEN WE MEET

- **Wednesday Night - 6:30 pm**

* Truth Trek - Meets during the school year. Children grades PreK to sixth grade come together for a time full of learning and fun where we divide the night into three segments:

1. Bible Truth Time—The children are instructed from the Bible to seek first the kingdom of God.

2. Songs and Catechism—This is designed to reinforce the lesson and teaching of God's Word through singing and catechism questions.

3. Game Time—Game time enables the kids to develop character.

* Youth - Students in grades 7-12 meet throughout the year for a time of singing, teaching from the Word, fellowship and prayer in small groups. We rotate between expository teaching through a book of the Bible and in-depth instruction on Biblical topics.

- **Nursery**

We are pleased to provide a clean nursery for infants and toddlers during all Sunday and Wednesday services for those who are participating. Faithful volunteers provide a loving and caring environment for your children while you are in the worship service. The two and three year-old classes are taught simple truths from the Bible during the Sunday morning service.

MINISTRIES OF THE CHURCH

- **Barnabas Ministry** (Minister to New Members)
- **Blount County Jail Ministry** (For Women)
- **Children's Ministry**
- **Community Volunteers & Disaster Relief**
- **Counseling Ministry**
- **Doulos Ministry** (Young Singles)
- **Evangelism Ministry**
- **Event Setup Team**
- **Fix It Ministry** (Light Regular Church Maintenance)
- **Host Home Ministry** (Provide Hospitality)
- **Media Ministry** (Worship Slides & Livestreaming)
- **Men's Ministry**
- **Missions**
- **Moving Ministry**
- **Music Ministry**
- **Nehemiah Brigade** (Elderly or Occasional Home Repair or Yard Assistance)
- **Nursing Home Ministry**
- **Orphan Care Ministry**
- **Partners Ministry**
- **Prayer Ministries**
- **Prison Ministry - Morgan County**
- **Sound Team**
- **Telos** (Young Adults)
- **Ushers**
- **Visitor Ministry** (New Church Visitors)
- **Website Ministry**
- **Welcome Team & Greeters** (Sunday Morning Hospitality)
- **Widow and Widower's Ministry**
- **Women's Ministry**
- **Young Marrieds**
- **Youth Ministry** (Garamuts)

OUR OBJECTIVES

The objectives of Grace Community Church help us to clarify, Scripturally, how we will live out the theological implications of our statement of faith. Our ultimate goal is to glorify God in all things, and our objectives serve as Biblical guidelines to help us accomplish this.

Worship

To promote, encourage, and strive after worship of God our Father and His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, with all of our heart, soul, mind, and strength.

God's Word

To teach and preach the whole counsel of God as revealed in the Holy Scriptures; that the pride of man might be humbled and the grace of God in true salvation might be exalted, to the praise of His glory; and that genuine holiness in heart and life might be promoted.

Spiritual Authority

To humbly subject ourselves to such spiritual authority as may be placed over us under the headship of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Holiness

To pursue holiness in our personal lives, in our families, and in this part of our Lord's body, trusting the Holy Spirit to conform us to the image of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Discipleship

To nurture those entrusted to us in personal discipleship, helping every man, woman, and child to be fully equipped for the works of service and to have the maturity necessary to recognize and refute error.

Evangelism

To reach out to other parts of our nation and the world in support of faithful missionary endeavors.

Prayer

To undergird our every endeavor with alert, thankful prayer entirely recognizing our complete dependence on the power of God to accomplish His own will.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

The Scriptures

The Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God. Therefore, all Scripture is authoritative, infallible and inerrant. The Scriptures are the only sufficient rule for faith and practice. (Ps. 19:7; 2 Tim. 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:20-21)

God

There is but one God, the Maker, Preserver and Ruler of all things, having in and of Himself all perfections, and being infinite in them all; and to Him all creatures owe the highest love, reverence and obedience that springs from faith. (Deut. 6:4; Ps. 145:3; John 1:3; 1 Cor. 8:4-6; 1 Tim. 1:17)

The Trinity

The Scriptures reveal that the one God eternally exists in three persons: the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Each person has distinct personal attributes but without division of nature, essence or being. (Matt. 3:16-17; 28:19; 2 Cor. 13:14)

Providence

God from eternity, decrees or permits all things that come to pass and perpetually upholds, directs and governs all creatures and all events; yet so as not in any wise to be the author or approver of sin nor to destroy the responsibility of intelligent creatures. (Isa. 46:9-11; Prov. 16:33; Col. 1:17; Heb. 1:3; James 1:13-15)

Election

Election is God's eternal choice of some persons unto everlasting life-not because of foreseen merit or foreseen faith in them, but of His mere mercy in Christ-in consequence of which choice they are called, justified and glorified. (Rom. 8:28-30; 1 Cor. 1:27-29; Eph. 1:4, 11)

The Fall of Man

God originally created Man in His own image, and free from sin; but, through the temptation of Satan, Adam transgressed the command of God and fell from his original holiness and righteousness; whereby his posterity inherit a nature corrupt and wholly opposed to God and His law. As a result, they are under condemnation, and as soon as they are capable of moral action, become actual transgressors. (Gen. 1:26-27; 3:1-7; Rom. 5:12-19; Eph. 2:1-3)

STATEMENT OF FAITH

The Mediator

Since Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, is fully God and fully man, He is the divinely appointed mediator between God and man. Having taken upon Himself human nature, yet without sin, He perfectly fulfilled the law; suffered and died upon the cross for the salvation of sinners. He was buried, and rose again the third day, and ascended to His Father, at whose right hand He ever lives to make intercession for His people. He will return again visibly and bodily. He is the only Mediator, the Prophet, Priest and King of the Church, and Sovereign of the Universe. (Isa. 53:10-12; John 1:1,14; Acts 1:9-11; Rom. 3:21-26; 8:34; 1 Cor. 15:3-4; Gal. 3:13; 1 Tim. 2:5; Heb. 1:1-3)

The Holy Spirit

We believe that God the Holy Spirit brings glory to the Father and the Son. He applies the work of Christ to those who are saved and distributes spiritual gifts to every believer according to His sovereign good pleasure for the purpose of building up the body of Christ. He is the Comforter, the Spirit of Adoption, the Seal of our Salvation and the Guarantor of our inheritance in Christ. (John 14:16-17; 16:14; Acts 5:3; Rom. 8:14-17; Eph. 1:13-14)

Regeneration

Regeneration is a change of heart, wrought by the Holy Spirit, who gives life to those dead in trespasses and sins, enlightening their minds spiritually and savingly to understand the Word of God, and renewing their whole nature, so that they love and practice holiness. It is a work of God's free and special grace alone, so that the ultimate cause of regeneration is God's grace, not the will of man. (John 1:12-13; Eph. 2:1-6; Titus 3:5; 1 John 5:1)

Repentance

Repentance is an evangelical grace, wherein a person being led by the Holy Spirit, made sensible of the manifold evil of his sin, humbles himself for it, with godly sorrow, detestation of it, and self-abhorrence, with a purpose and endeavor to walk before God so as to please Him in all things. (Acts 2:37-38; 11:18; 2 Cor. 7:10-11)

STATEMENT OF FAITH

Faith

Saving faith is the belief, on God's authority, of whatever is revealed in His Word concerning Christ; accepting and resting upon Him alone for justification and eternal life. It is wrought in the heart by the Holy Spirit, and is accompanied by all other saving graces, and leads to a life of holiness. (Rom. 3:27-28; 4:1-5; 4:17-25; 10:14,17; Phil. 1:29; Eph. 2:8; James 2:14-26)

Justification

Justification is God's gracious and full acquittal of sinners, who believe in Christ, from all sin, through the satisfaction that Christ has made; not for anything wrought in them or done by them; but on account of the obedience and satisfaction of Christ, they receiving and resting on Him and His righteousness by faith. (Acts 13:38-39; Rom. 3:21-26; 8:34; 10:3-4; 2 Cor. 5:21; Phil 3:9)

Sanctification

Those who have been regenerated are also sanctified by God's word and Spirit dwelling in them. This sanctification is progressive through the supply of Divine strength, which all saints seek to obtain, pressing after a heavenly life in cordial obedience to all Christ's commands. (Jer. 31:31-34; Ezek. 36:27; Rom. 8:1-17; Gal. 5:13-24; 2 Peter 1:3-11)

Perseverance of the Saints

All those whom God has regenerated will never totally nor finally fall away from the state of grace, but shall certainly persevere to the end; and though they may fall through neglect and temptation, into sin, whereby they grieve the Spirit, impair their graces and comforts, bring reproach on the Church, and temporal judgments on themselves, yet they shall be renewed again unto repentance, and be kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation. (John 6:37-40; 10:28-29; Rom. 8:28-39; 1 Cor. 1:8-9; Phil. 1:6)

The Church

The Lord Jesus is the head of the Church, which is composed of all His true disciples, and in Him is invested supremely all power for its government. According to His commandment, Christians are to associate themselves into particular societies or churches; and to each of these churches He has given needful authority for administering that

STATEMENT OF FAITH

order, discipline and worship which He has appointed. The regular officers of a church are Elders and Deacons. (John 10:16; Acts 20:17,28; Eph. 1:22; 5:23; 1 Tim. 3:1-13; 5:17-18; Titus 1:5-9; Heb. 10:25)

Baptism

Baptism is an ordinance of the Lord Jesus, obligatory upon every believer, wherein he is immersed in water in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, as a sign of his fellowship with the death and resurrection of Christ, of remission of sins, and of giving himself up to God, to live and walk in newness of life. It is a prerequisite to church fellowship, and to participation in the Lord's Supper. (Matt. 28:19; Acts 2:38; Rom. 6:3-5; 1 Cor. 12:13)

The Lord's Supper

The Lord's Supper is an ordinance of Jesus Christ, to be administered with the elements of bread and wine and to be observed by His churches till the end of the world. It is in no sense a sacrifice, but is designed to commemorate His death, to confirm the faith and other graces of Christians, and to be a bond, pledge and renewal of their communion with Him, and of their church fellowship. (Matt. 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 10:16-17; 11:23-34)

Liberty of Conscience

God alone is Lord of the conscience; and He has left it free from the doctrines and commandments of men, which are in anything contrary to His word, or not contained in it. Civil magistrates being ordained of God, subjection in all lawful things commanded by them ought to be yielded by us in the Lord, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake. (Matt. 15:9; Rom. 13:1-7; 14:4; Acts 5:29; Col. 2:20-23)

The Resurrection

The bodies of men after death return to dust, but their spirits return immediately to God-the righteous to rest with Him; the wicked, to be reserved under darkness to the judgment. At the last day, the bodies of all the dead, both just and unjust, will be raised. (John 5:28-29; 1 Cor. 15:12-28; 2 Cor. 5:1-10; Phil. 1:23)

STATEMENT OF FAITH

The Judgment

God has appointed a day, wherein He will judge the world by Jesus Christ, when every one shall receive according to his deeds; the wicked shall go into everlasting and conscious punishment; the righteous, into everlasting life. (Matt. 25:46; John 5:22, 27-29; Acts 17:31; Rom. 2:6-11; 2 Cor. 5:10; 2 Thess. 1:7-10; 2 Tim. 4:8; Rev. 7:13-17; 14:9-11)

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

Our Elders:

Jay Brown
Paul Edmiston
Jeremy Hammer
Ron O'Dell
Chris Riser
Andy Smith
Justin Smith

Our Deacons:

David Beaman, Andy Boyer, Steve Creasy, Peter Davis, Mark Dew, Ralph Fairfield, Richard Fogg, Eric Gutridge, Craig Hanson, David Laguna, Bruce Lane, Tom Millsaps, Jack Morrison, Nathan Simmons, Chris Slate, Tom Webb, Daniel West, Mark West

CONNECT WITH US!

Please use the QR codes below to receive more information

CONNECT CARD

To receive emails from the church or to register for events, please fill out this form for you and your family.

GCC'S CHURCH CENTER APP

We encourage you to utilize this app to learn more about Grace and its ministries. This is primarily how our church family stays connected!

GCC WEBSITE

Check out our website for sermons, service times and ministries of the church.

FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

This provides more information about our fellowship groups, locations, and meeting times.

Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you will abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.
Romans 15:13