

# Grace Fellowship Baptist Church

The Church

With a Heart

Sunday, February 8, 2026

Devotional Thought From the Pastor...

## THIS WEEK AT GRACE

February 8—14, 2026

Sunday School	9:45 am
Worship	11:00 am
VBS Kick-Off	12:10 pm
Int. Harvest Church	1:30 pm
Praise Team	4:30 pm
Evangelism	6:00 pm

### Mid-Week

FB/YouTube Bible Study

### Wednesday

Bible Study	6:00 pm
Praise Team	7:00 pm

## Stewardship Thought...

**Luke 6:35-36**—“But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.”

The message of this Scripture is that we are to love, be charitable, and have a giving nature. A Christian's stewardship expresses concern for others by giving whatever is appropriate. Giving is right because it is compatible with God's nature and the nature He planned for us.

### Contact Us At:

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## Worship Service

### TIME OF QUIET MEDITATION

### TIME TO GATHER

Opening Song: In Christ Alone

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Whiter Than Snow Hymn 325

### SCRIPTURE: Ephesians 2:8

Saved, Saved Hymn 540

### TIME OF GIVING

Offering\*

This Is Your House Praise Team

### TIME IN GOD'S WORD

Message: Making The Journey

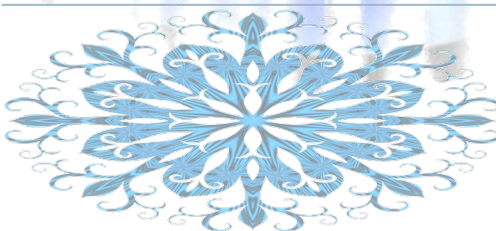
Colossians 1:1-10 Bro. Oscar

### CLOSING PRAYER

\*Please place offerings in the wooden box in back of the church.

## February Birthdays

Edward Esquivel	2/12
Jacob Godwin	2/01
Rose Etta Hutchison	2/04
Rachel Newman	2/28



## Ministry Gifts

Offerings for Budget	\$1,596.00
Designated Offerings	\$1,221.50
TOTAL OFFERINGS	\$2,817.50
10% Taken out for Missions	\$ 159.60
Needed This Week for Budget	\$1,146.82

## Courage to Stand for Jesus

Matthew 10:38, “Whoever does not take up their cross and follow me is not worthy of me.”

In AD155, the early church father Polycarp was threatened with death by fire for his faith in Christ. He replied, “For eighty and six years I have been his servant, and he has done me no wrong. And how can I now blaspheme my king who saved me?” Polycarp's response can be an inspiration for us when we face extreme trial because of our faith in Jesus, our King.

Just hours before Christ's death, Peter boldly pledged His allegiance to Him: “I will lay down my life for you” (John 13:37). Jesus, who knew Peter better than Peter knew himself, replied, “Very truly I tell you, before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times!” (v. 38). However, after Jesus' resurrection, the same one who'd denied Him began to serve Him courageously and would eventually glorify Him through his own death (see 21:16-19).

Are you a Polycarp or a Peter? Most of us, if we're honest, are more of a Peter with a “courage outage”—a failure to speak or act honorably as a believer in Jesus. Such occasions—whether in a classroom, boardroom, or breakroom—needn't indelibly define us. When those failures occur, we must prayerfully dust ourselves off and turn to Jesus, the one who died for us and lives for us. He'll help us be faithful to Him and courageously live for Him daily in difficult places.

## Announcements...

•**Giving Records**—If you still need a copy of your giving records, please ask Rachel or Annie.

•**Mid-Week Bible Study**—EVERYONE is invited to join Bro. Frank for mid-week Bible study on YouTube any time and at the church on Wednesdays at 6:00 pm. This week, the study begins in 2 Chronicles 33.

•**VBS—Already—Yes**—Our Kick-Off for this year's VBS is happening TODAY! Please stop by and take a look. And if you would like, you may sign up to work or help in a particular rotation.

•**Preschool Leaders Needed**—We need members who are willing to watch little ones during our worship service. We also need a leader and assistant to teach preschoolers during Sunday School whenever new families begin coming.

•**Donations Toward Our Church and Various Ministries**—Please consider donating toward our CHURCH BUDGET, WHICH IS OUR MOST CRUCIAL NEED. Some of our ministry needs are Sharing the Load, 2026 VBS, 2nd Floor A/C fund, Together We Build, Children/Preschool fund, Youth fund, Benevolent Ministries, Music Ministry, North

American and International missionaries, J & T, Texans on Mission, Samaritan's Purse, etc. You may place your donations in an offering envelope and write the name of the ministry/organization on a "Special Offering" line (the amount goes on the right). Remember to place your regular tithe on the short line after the words, "Budget Offering." Then place all donations in the offering box in back of the church. Or—you may also send your donations through the mail or Zelle. The church's Zelle address is [gfbcfw@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gfbcfw@sbcglobal.net).

•**Church Website**—If you have internet you can go to our website—<https://www.gfbcfw.org>—to find lots of information such as sermon notes, pastor's weekly YouTube messages, Bro. Frank's YouTube Bible studies, giving opportunities, the ability to leave prayer requests and more.

•**Instagram**—Also, please remember to follow our church on Instagram at @gfbcfw where you can receive inspiration and information!

•**Toiletry Items for the Homeless**—Since the homeless are always in need, please continue to collect travel-size toiletry items, and bring them to Becky at the church.

•**Budget Needs**—Please, prayerfully consider your part in support of our church missions, ministries, utilities, and upkeep. This week we need to pay our AT&T, gas, pest control, and water bills. How can you help? Please pray, trust God and be faithful.



Dear Church,

Governments in some nations have made it challenging, and sometimes nearly impossible, to send gospel workers. These places are defined by restrictions and borders that keep access to the Bible incredibly limited. How do you share the good news of Jesus with citizens of a country like that?

The IMB is committed to ensuring all tribes, tongues, and nations have access to the gospel, no matter the cost or risk. When an opportunity arises to increase our work in these hard-to-reach countries, we must seize it.

In just two weeks, thousands of visitors from over 90 nations — including those currently closed to gospel access — will gather in Northern Italy.

Our strategy is this: We don't just share the gospel; we place God's Word into their hands. When a tourist or athlete from a closed country encounters Christ and returns home, the gospel travels with them — in their luggage and in their hearts.

Your gift funds the distribution of Bibles in Northern Italy and empowers this global ripple effect, bypassing border restrictions and ensuring the words of Jesus reach places desperate for His Word.

In Christ,

Angie Shepherd  
Journeyman Alumni  
Prayer and Missions Advocate

## Today's Scripture

**Ephesians 2:8**—"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God."

**Making The Journey***Colossians 1:1-10***From Where You Have Come**

- Paul reminds the Colossians of their starting point.
- Their salvation experience was evidenced in changed attitudes and behavior.
- Believer's baptism gives you that milestone marker of the day when you publicly stated that you were a Christian
- It was important for the Colossians to know from where they had come.

**You Need to Know Where You Are**

- The Colossians did not realize how far they had drifted from where they should have been to where they were now.
- The "Colossian Heresy" diminished the pre-eminence of Christ and the sufficiency of His sacrifice on the cross to forgive sins.
- The Colossians did not realize how far they had drifted off course.
- There are errors and heresies that can creep into our Christian lives if we are not careful.

**We Need a Plan to Get to Where We Ought to Be**

- There are times when we need to do a spiritual reset.
- We need to become mature in our understanding.
- Throughout the New Testament, the Christian experience is quantified as a journey.
- Sometimes Christians get stuck at the beginning, reliving their spiritual birth, over and over again.

**Conclusion**

- Paul was not questioning the salvation experience of the early believers; he was telling them they needed to grow up.
- God's will is for believers to become more and more like Christ.
- Half of a believer's spiritual growth is learning what he does not know; the other half is unlearning what he does know.





# Remember in Prayer . . .



†Each week, please read through and update our prayer requests. Let us know if we need to keep praying for something or if the prayer has been answered.

†Please pray for strength and total healing for 5-yr-old Lexus who is in ICU for kidney and other complications; Kylie from cancer; for health issues for Bill; for Alice to continue healing; continued healing for Tony from cancer & broken ribs; for Lori—just diagnosed with stage 4 cancer; for healing for Ben's mother and strength for Ben as he cares for her; healing for Victor from cancer and for Liz's many issues; for



Mark H. from cancer; for Lisa from breast cancer as she goes through chemo and for her husband to find a new job; healing for Tonya from surgery; Laura Thompson's vision loss; healing for Tonya a traumatic brain injury; Frank's hip and back to heal; for Carmon from her fall & hip surgery; for Gwen from pancreatic cancer and for Dale as he cares for her; for Cliff and Stacey's poor health, and for Sharon as she cares for them; for Kevin to heal from pancreatitis; healing for Herbert, Barbara and Kitty; healing for a growth on Ashlyn's brain; for Paige and Kristie's health issues; healing for Virgie and Rose E; for Oscar A and Robert and Annie, Nora and Doyle; for John's head and memory; for Laura's vision and

memory issues; and for Susen's eyes, stomach and feet.

†Miscellaneous praises and prayer needs—Please pray for an unspoken request for Becky; for an unspoken prayer for a young couple working through problems; praises and prayers for Paige, Jacob and Stetson; for an unspoken need for Nick; for an unspoken prayer for Donna; for an unspoken need for Tiffany; for an unspoken need for Richard; for Jim and his need; for family challenges for Daisy; for needs of the Polk/Flores family and their needs for God's guidance; for Paige and Brian, Carla and Tony as they continue to care for Dakota's type 1 diabetes; for Jourdeah's best interest in her family and for unity in the Maroney family; for Chris and his little girl—Amiyah, and for their unspoken needs; for Ryan and his unspoken needs; for Genia, Nick and RJ's needs; and for Shannon and Allison's relationship.

†Pray for the Children— Please pray for the children and youth in our church and for those who came to our VBS; and for teachers and staff who are leading them in all areas of their lives.

†Pray for our church—for our pastors and their families; for REVIVAL among our members; for a preschool teacher to come forward; and for a miracle involving the demolition of the south building.

†International Harvest Church and Ministries—Please continue to pray for the International Harvest Church and Ministries as they worship and praise God in the GFBC facilities. Pray for the

missionaries they are supporting in Myanmar.

†Pray for wisdom, peace and protection in our nation—for state and North American missionaries; for Texans on Mission and Samaritan's Purse and their work; for first responders and those who have suffered loss from various disasters; for the homeless, refugees and those suffering from hunger in our nation; for churches that are struggling; for wisdom for our political leaders, including our president, VP, governors, senators and congressmen.

†Pray for the Nations—for Samaritan's Purse as they minister to hurting people around the world; for our International missionaries; for J and T as they minister to Afghan refugees; for a peace agreement in Israel; for the situation in Ukraine to be resolved; for Burmese Christians in Myanmar; and for other Christians, missionaries and refugees who are suffering from persecution in the Middle East, Taiwan, N. Korea, India, Africa, Viet Nam, China, Russia, Turkey, etc. Pray for the OCC shoeboxes and for the children who received them.



## Prayer Works!

### Prayer Requests & Announcements

You may email new prayer needs, announcements, edits and deletions to [gfbf-fw@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gfbf-fw@sbcglobal.net) or enter them on the website by Tuesday at noon, 12:00 pm. You may also text your prayer requests to 817-937-5974.