

Welcome  
to



**GraceUnion**  
CHURCH

Encountering Grace through Jesus, right where we are.  
Being moved by Grace toward all God has for us.

3900 Union Rd, St. Louis, MO 63125 | [graceunionstl.org](http://graceunionstl.org)  
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# WELCOME TO GRACE UNION

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Thank you for joining us today! If this is your first time with us, please stop by the Connect Center in the lobby for a free gift. We'd love to meet you.

## ***GU SPOTLIGHT***

*Find out more about these events at [graceunionstl.org](http://graceunionstl.org).*

**Thank you to everyone who came out to our 10th Annual Trivia Night to support Africa Oasis Project, and a special thank you to Chuck Forbes for all your hard work!**

### **THANK YOU TRUSTEES**

Grace Union Church is blessed by the hard work and spiritual leadership of our Board of Trustees. For those who don't know, this role serves both a legal function in our church governance, and a spiritual function in helping lead the church according to our God given vision for the future. We could not be who we are, or do what we do, without them. Our current trustee board is comprised of: Theresa Stephan, Barb Lynch, Angela Caldwell, Jon Strautz, Scott Bush, Quinton Williams, and Shane Cox. We also want say thank you to Frank Feliciano who just completed a term on the board in 2017. A special thanks also goes to Bill and Karen Fain who serve in a non-voting advisory role, directing a leadership program that prepares possible future candidates, and enriches current new board members. To everyone on this list and everyone who has served in the past, thank you. Your Love for Christ and his people and the sacrifices you make to display it reap rewards we will only fully see in eternity. -Pastor Bob

### **GU HEALTHCARE TEAM MEETING - TODAY**

Grace Union has many members in the healthcare field that will be serving the church with their expertise. Mindy Adams is leading this group. Anyone in the medical or first responder fields is welcome to attend the monthly meetings where the team can collaborate and fellowship. The meeting is today, right after service, in Conference Room B. Contact Mindy at [mindyadams82@gmail.com](mailto:mindyadams82@gmail.com).

## ***THIS WEEK AT GU***

### **FOOD ADDICTS ANONYMOUS - Monday, 6:30 p.m.**

Maureen Chirco leads the South County Food Addicts group here at GU. All are welcome. You can contact Maureen at 314.378.5259. Also see [foodaddicts.org](http://foodaddicts.org).

### **MOTHER'S MILK MINISTRY - Tuesday, 10 a.m.**

Melanie Terry, a Certified Lactation Consultant, leads this group for moms with babies to connect and support each other. The group meets once a month in the GU Kids area. You can contact Melanie at [melaniemterry@gmail.com](mailto:melaniemterry@gmail.com).



Please join us for our Easter Service on Sunday, April 1st. We will have egg hunts after each service, and a petting zoo between services! Use the enclosed card to invite family and friends! The event is also on our FB page to share!



We are so excited to be holding TWO Egg Hunts for the kids after each service this Easter! **That means we need of A LOT of small/individually-wrapped candy and eggs by NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 11TH.** There will be a box by the Kids Check-in Area. Thank you!

### REGIONAL HOUSE PARTIES

We've been praying and pursuing, and now GUC is partying! Regional house parties have begun. The next party is **Friday, March 9th, 6:30 p.m. at the home of Ricky & Kelley Pipkins.** You can contact Ricky at rickypipkins18@gmail.com. Bring a food item to share if able, and we'll see you there!

	March 9	March 23	March 30
<b>Zip Codes</b>	63012, 63052, 63048, 63028, 63070, 62225, 63050	63125, 63111, 62236, 62206	63128, 63021, 63049, 63026, 63127, 63025, 63031, 63126
<b>Hosts</b>	Ricky & Kelley Pipkins	Chris & Shelly Kilburn	Jon & Beth Strautz
<b>Address</b>	1534 Mammoth Ln. Imperial, MO 63052	3020 Kreindheder Ct. St. Louis, MO 63125	4930 Brockwood Dr. St. Louis, MO 63128



We will be having a baby and child dedication on Sunday, March 25th. If you are interested in having your child dedicated, please contact Crystal Myers by March 18th. This dedication is:

- A time for Parents to make a public commitment to God to raise their children in His ways.
- A time for Grace Union Church to join with the parents in prayers for and celebration of these children.



The Stronger Men's Conference is coming soon! The cost is \$155 plus food and gas. You can sign up at the Welcome Center on Sundays. The conference exists to empower and motivate men to live out God's view of manhood and be the best husbands, fathers, and leaders God has called them to be. You can find out more at <https://strongermen.org>. **THE REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS APRIL 1st.**

# WAYS TO CONNECT



**SUNDAYS @ 10AM**  
**WEDNESDAYS @ 6:30PM**  
Nursery—Elementary



**PRAYER NEEDS**  
Email: [gucprayer@gmail.com](mailto:gucprayer@gmail.com)



**SUNDAYS (Middle School) @ 10:15**  
**WEDNESDAYS (Gr 6-12) @ 6:30PM**



**SUNDAYS @ 9AM**  
Women's Group (Conf. Room B)  
Men's Group (Conf. Room A)

**WEDNESDAY**  
**NIGHT**  
**EXPERIENCE**  
**6:30PM**

## **CONNECTION CARD**

If you're new to GU, want prayer, or need to update your info, fill out a Connection Card, and put it in the Offering or the Giving Box in the lobby.

## **STAY CONNECTED**



@graceunionstl | #graceunionstl

## **LISTEN ONLINE**



**ONLINE AUDIO**  
[graceunionstl.org/multimedia](http://graceunionstl.org/multimedia)

## **WAYS TO GIVE**



**ENVELOPE**  
Offering/Giving Box



**TEXT TO GIVE**  
314.888.5188



**ONLINE**  
[graceunionstl.org](http://graceunionstl.org)

# PRAYPURSUEPARTY



# IN THE LIGHT: *Fellowship of Brokenness*

1 *John 1:5-7* – 5 This is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is Light, and in Him there is no darkness at all. 6 If we say that we have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth; 7 but if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.

- Apart from Jesus, the plight of Humanity is the complete inability to perceive anything about anything.
- The message of 1 John is that Jesus was the Light of God come back into humanity.
- According to John simple belief in Jesus is not the goal. The goal is Walking in his Light.
- Living in Lockstep with Jesus has the potential to remove the blindfolded fumbling from life.

## **I. Walking in the Light starts with Recognition and open Admission of our own sinfulness.**

1 *John 1:8-10* – 8 If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. 10 If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us.

- Comparing myself to the wrong standard keeps me in darkness.

## **II. When it comes to “Sinful Self Awareness” people naturally prefer darkness or cluelessness.**

*John 3:19* – This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil.

- We can freely admit a lack of perfection but we don't really care for concrete representation of just how gross we can be inside.
- One reason we prefer cluelessness is that we have an engrained need to justify ourselves.
- The felt need to earn our way causes us to view ourselves through rose colored glasses.

**Willful self-ignorance chains us to negative circumstances.**

### **III. Understanding that Jesus justifies us gives us freedom to stand in the light without Fear or Shame.**

- The gospel tells us that Jesus lived right before God on behalf of humanity.
- The gospel tells us that the judgment we deserve for our sin was placed on Jesus on the cross.
- That means God's disposition toward those who are In Christ is Positive.
  - That positive disposition was earned by Jesus not us.
- We don't have to present ourselves to God in a certain way to be accepted.
  - Through Jesus we are accepted just as we are.
- We don't have to present a certain way to feel his love, or be lined up for blessing.
  - Through Jesus those are given just as we are.
- The fact that Jesus secures the terms of our interaction with God means that we can stand before God as we are without FEAR or SHAME.
- Masquerading robs others of the opportunity to authentically love you and it robs you of the ability to receive the love people are extending.

*James 5:16* – Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another so that you may be healed.

- The promise of anonymity breeds pervasive hypocrisy and secret sin.
- We are recognizing and confessing these things as EXCEPTIONS TO WHO WE ARE IN CHRIST and holding them out to the Light asking God to make us more like him.

### **IV. When we recognize and confess our sin from a desire to be made more like Jesus, we are forgiven and cleansed.**

*1 John 1:9* – If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Philippians 1:6* – He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion.

# SAVE THE DATES



A calendar page with a pen and a logo. The logo is a stylized 'G' with a flame-like shape inside. The calendar entries are as follows:

3/9	House Party - Pipkins
3/10	Youth Fine Arts Festival
3/11	Daylight Savings
3/12	Food Addicts Anonymous
3/17	STL Deaf Church Outreach
3/18	STL Deaf Church 1st Service
3/23	House Party - Kilburns
3/25	Child Dedications
4/1	Easter Sunday & Egg Hunt
4/13,14	Ignite Youth Retreat & Stronger Men's Conference



For information about the new Share the Love Deaf Church outreach and services please contact Pastor Blue Seeley at 417.380.8286 [godsfaucet@gmail.com](mailto:godsfaucet@gmail.com).

## OUR STAFF IS HERE TO SERVE YOU

OFFICE: 314.892.2757

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