

Welcome
to



GraceUnion
CHURCH

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

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WELCOME TO GRACE UNION

Thank you for joining us today! If it's 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 News & Events



OCTOBER IS PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH!! **NEXT Sunday, October 21st** please stay with us after service for a reception in the lobby. We will also have a basket for cards of appreciation. Let's show our pastors how much we love them. (Lead Pastor) Bob & Karen Poley; (Associate Pastor) Jason & Crystal Myers; (Youth Pastor) Patrick & Ashley Daniels



PARENTS AND STUDENTS grades 1st-12th! Practice today is for **ALL STUDENTS**. Be sure to pick up a schedule at the Elementary area. If you have any questions please contact Mindy at mindyadams82@gmail.com or Karen at karenmomma@live.com.



Please stay with us after service today to witness and celebrate with those taking this important step of faith! If you have any questions or would like to be baptized, please contact Pastor Bob at bobpoley78@gmail.com.



Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. we have programs for all ages: Awana for PreK through Elementary; GU students for grades 6-12; and adults are in the Auditorium for a great time of teaching, worship & prayer. Nursery is also available.



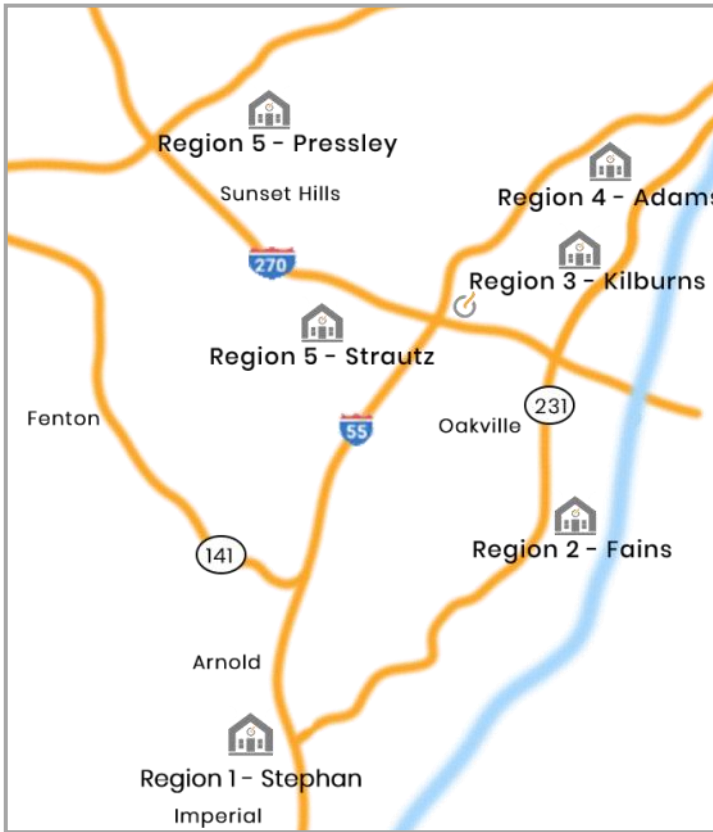
Our annual **TRUNK OR TREAT** is coming soon featuring Juggling Jeff! This is our biggest community outreach of the year, and we need your help! You can donate candy in the kids check-in area, or sign up in the lobby to host a trunk or volunteer.



REGIONAL PARTIES



Get to know your GU neighbors with our Regional House Parties! See the map and schedule below to find your Region and Host. Bring a snack to share if able. If not, that's ok. Don't let that stop you from coming! Parties begin at 6:30 p.m.



Hosts	Address	Dates
David & Theresa Stephan (Region 1)	1620 Shane Dr., Imperial 63052	July 6
Chris & Shelly Kilburn (Region 3)	3020 Kreindheder Ct., St. Louis, 63125	August 31
Matt & Rose Pressley (Region 5)	10212 Richview Dr., St. Louis 63127	September 7
Glenn & Mindy Adams (Region 4)	826 Zeiss Ave., St. Louis 63125	October 12
Bill & Karen Fain (Region 2)	6299 Whisper Bend Dr., St. Louis 63129	October 26
Jon & Beth Strautz (Region 5)	4930 Brockwood Dr., St. Louis 63128	November 2

Hebrews: Training Days

Even though God may not be causing the hard things happening to us, he has at least permitted them to happen.

- Because God is able to take these things meant for evil and use them as Spiritual, Mental, and Emotional strength training.

I. God takes our struggles and organizes them according to a plan, allowing us to walk through a real life Training Camp of Soul.

Hebrews 12:5-13

- It talks about disciplining a child the way we use the term "raising a child."
- As a parent God allows and directs a process of Struggle and Pain to accomplish in us what Disciplining Accomplishes in Children.

II. God intends all this life to be a process of Growth and Development.

- A. We chafe against the idea of a life long process because we forget that this life is "but a vapor" and what comes next is the real deal. – *James 4:14*
- B. We would prefer delivery of divinely finished products but God prefers to put us through a process.
- C. God prefers process because he is primarily in the business of building problem solvers not solving problems.
- D. God takes men and women through processes that shapes us more into his Image so that we can in turn shape the world for him.

Romans 8:18 – I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.

III. The Road to Glory is paved with Pain and Struggle.

- A. 2 different kinds of pain.
 - *Hebrews 12:5-6* – My son do not make light of the Lord's discipline and do not lose heart when he rebukes you, because the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and he chastens everyone he accepts as his son. (Rebuke and Chastening)

IV. Suffering is Easy to talk about but hard to live.

- A. We live in a struggle against evil. Evil is waging war against you and everyone around you.
 - *John 10:10* – steal kill and destroy, is our enemies agenda
- B. Every battle you go through and come out of makes you more equipped resist and defeat our enemy.

- It's never pleasant; it is war, but the more battles you fight, the more elite you become.
- The more of liability you are to our Enemy.

V. Suffering is Strengthening.

Hebrews 12:11-13 – 11 No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it. 12 Therefore, strengthen your feeble arms and weak knees. 13 "Make level paths for your feet," so that the lame may not be disabled, but rather healed.

- A. This is not an insult, it is only a statement of fact. Nobody is battle hardened until they are.
 - The untested person has feeble arms and weak knees.
 - Because it is the battle, the struggle, the testing that develops that strength.
- B. I don't know what the mud and blood is that you are slopping through as you fight for your life, but what I know is that God is faithful and he will not leave your side, and on the other side of it you will be strong.
 - This thing cannot go any further than He allows it to go.
 - His intention is for your GOOD.

VI. How do we choose to be strengthened in suffering?

1 Peter 5:7 – Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

Philippians 4:6-7 – 6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. 7 And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 3:13 – Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

- A. As situations arise in life, in courage and faith you walk through them trusting that your Father is in control and has your interests at heart.
- B. You do what you can do, when you can do it.
- C. Forget the suffering of yesterday. Don't keep reliving the hurts of the past.
- D. But you leave worry and anxiety and responsibility with God.
 - Daily, hourly if need be, making your request and then leave it there.
 - Cast the weight on to him knowing that he cares.

2018 **PRAYPURSUEPARTY**

OCTOBER

- 21 PASTOR APPRECIATION
- 21 OCC Kick-off
- 27 Men's Breakfast
- 27 TRUNK OR TREAT
- 28 Membership Meeting
- 8, 15, 22 Food Addicts Anonymous

NOVEMBER

- 4 Healthcare Team Meeting
- 11 GUStudents Guys Night
- 18 Who We Are Lunch
- 18 GUStudents Girls Night
- 5, 12, 19, 26 Food Addicts Anonymous

* See graceunionstl.org or [Facebook.com/graceunionstl](https://www.facebook.com/graceunionstl) for details about these and other GU Events! *

WAYS TO CONNECT



SUNDAYS @ 10AM
Nursery-Elementary



PRAYER NEEDS
Email: gucprayer@gmail.com



SUNDAYS
Adults Group @ 9am



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



6:30pm

Nursery Care | PreK/K Awana | Elementary Awana
Adult Service (Main Auditorium)

WAYS TO GIVE



ENVELOPE
Offering/Giving Box



TEXT TO GIVE
314.888.5188



ONLINE
graceunionstl.org

OUR STAFF IS HERE TO SERVE YOU

- **Rev. Bob Poley, Lead Pastor**
bobpoley78@gmail.com
- **Rev. Jason Myers, Associate Pastor**
jscott5157@gmail.com
- **Patrick Daniels, Student Ministry Pastor**
patrickdaniels1137@gmail.com
- **Carrie Indelicato, Worship Leader**
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- **Crystal Myers, Early Childhood Director**
crystaldawnmyers@gmail.com
- **Carrie Clifton, Publications & Media**
lcclifton@aol.com