

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

WHO WE ARE LUNCH - TODAY

If you are new to GU and would like to know more about us and some of our leaders, we invite you to lunch after service. Please fill out a Connection Card and place in the offering noting "Who We Are Lunch."

CPR TRAINING - March 30 | 9a-12p | Cost \$45

GU will be hosting a CPR Certification training that will include adult, child & infant CPR and first aid. Children 6th grade and up may observe the first aid portion, but the training is for 18+. You can sign up in the lobby today, and contact Mindy Adams with questions at mindyadams82@gmail.com.

CHILD DEDICATION - Sunday, March 31

We will be having a Child Dedication Sunday, March 31. This is a time for parents to make a public commitment to God to raise their children in His ways; and a time for Grace Union Church to join with the parents in prayers for and celebration of these children. If you would like your child to be dedicated, please contact Crystal Myers by March 24 at crystaldawnmyers@gmail.com.

EASTER EGG COLLECTION

Our GU Easter celebration is approaching!! This year we are asking for donations of plastic eggs that are stuffed with **PRE-PACKAGED candy**. **Candy must be in it's own package**. We'll be having two egg hunts again, so we appreciate your donations! Donation boxes are located in the foyer and kids check-in area.

STRONGER MEN'S CONFERENCE - April 26-27

All men are invited to this annual conference at JQH Arena in Springfield, MO. Featuring high-energy worship and awesome entertainment, this action-packed conference will be an unforgettable experience! Past events have included NFL Superstar Panels, Monster Trucks, and MMA Fights. The cost is \$180 and is due at registration (includes conference and hotel). Sign up starting **TODAY** in the lobby. Contact Jason with any questions at jscott5157@gmail.com. You can also see strongermen.org for more information about the conference.

REGIONAL PARTIES



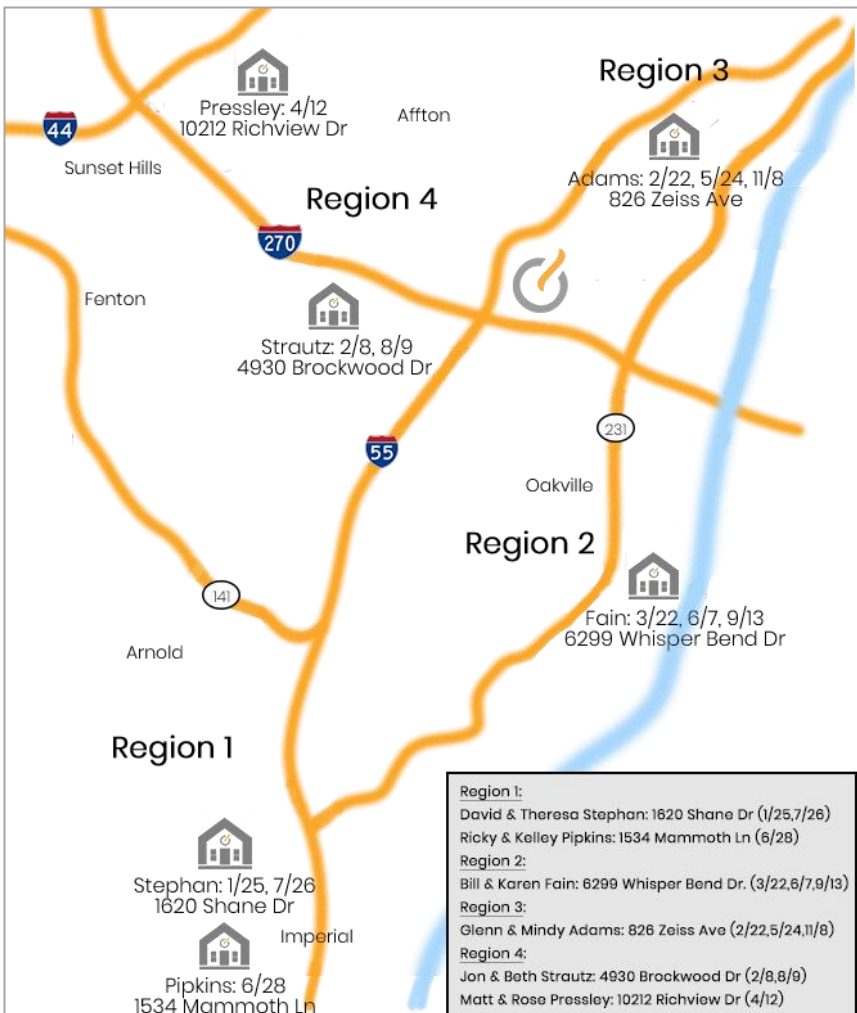
Get to know your GU neighbors with our Regional House Parties! See the map and schedule below to find your Region, host addresses and 2019 dates. Parties begin at 6:30 p.m. Bring a snack to share if able. If not, that's ok. Don't let that stop you from coming!

UPCOMING PARTIES:

Mar 22: Region 2 - Bill & Karen Fain

Apr 12: Region 4 - Matt & Rose Pressley

May 24: Region 3 - Glenn & Mindy Adams



Infrastructure of Blessing: Clay Jars

I. **Problem: Sometimes there is Blessing Available, but no Infrastructure to distribute it.**

Luke 5:17-26

- 17 One day Jesus was teaching, and Pharisees and teachers of the law were sitting there. They had come from every village of Galilee and from Judea and Jerusalem. And the power of the Lord was with Jesus to heal the sick.
- 18 Some men came carrying a paralyzed man on a mat and tried to take him into the house to lay him before Jesus.
- 19 When they could not find a way to do this because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and lowered him on his mat through the tiles into the middle of the crowd, right in front of Jesus.
- 20 When Jesus saw their faith, he said, "Friend, your sins are forgiven."
- 21 The Pharisees and the teachers of the law began thinking to themselves, "Who is this fellow who speaks blasphemy? Who can forgive sins but God alone?"
- 22 Jesus knew what they were thinking and asked, "Why are you thinking these things in your hearts?"
- 23 Which is easier: to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up and walk'?
- 24 But I want you to know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins." So he said to the paralyzed man, "I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home."
- 25 Immediately he stood up in front of them, took what he had been lying on and went home praising God.
- 26 Everyone was amazed and gave praise to God. They were filled with awe and said, "We have seen remarkable things today."

II. **There were a lot of different needs in that Crowd, and Jesus had exactly what they needed.**

- A. The Pharisees and Teachers of the Law had come from far and wide to hear Jesus teach.
 - They had a lot of Pre-conceived notions of what the Messiah would be like, and they were confused how Jesus fit into all that.
 - They were trying to sort all of that out.
- B. Common Israelites were there.
 - Seeking something more than rituals and rules
- C. The broken, the sick, and the outcasts were present in the crowd.
 - Rather than shunning the sick like the religious institution of his day did, Jesus embraced broken people

- D. Finally people like those who carried their friend.
- They were people who craved PURPOSE.

III. Everyone experienced something that day which they would not have experienced if they had not been there.

- A. We often make the mistake of assuming that if God is real and if he has anything for us, he will insert himself or that thing into our lives.

IV. There are 3 Forms of Blessing Infrastructure: Mental; Spiritual; Relational

- A. *Mental*: Often spiritual nourishment, growth, and change are spurred by learning.
- B. *Spiritual*: As we develop the ability to connect with the heart of God in prayer, we develop this second channel of communication and movement between us and God.
- C. *Relational*: Often God's plan for delivery of blessing is other people.

Proverbs 13:20

Walk with the wise and become wise; for a friend of fools suffers harm.

V. In acts of Sacred Incarnation, God delivers blessing through the human hands of friendship.

2 Corinthians 4:6-7

- 6 For God, who said, "Let there be light in the darkness," has made this light shine in our hearts so we could know the glory of God that is seen in the face of Jesus Christ.
- 7 We now have this light shining in our hearts, but we ourselves are like fragile clay jars containing this great treasure. This makes it clear that our great power is from God, not from ourselves.

VI. The people sitting around you in this room are like fragile imperfect jars, containing bits of the Indescribably Glorious God.

- A. Relational Infrastructure requires something more than Casual Contact.

2019

PRAYPURSUEPARTY

MARCH

- 20 Wednesday Night Small Groups
- 20 GUSstudents Event
- 22 Regional House Party (Fain)
- 24 Missions Sunday
- 28 Men's Dinner
- 31 Child Dedication
- 21 DAYS OF PRAYER BEGINS
- 11,18,25 Food Addicts Anonymous

APRIL

- 5 Leadership Appreciation Night
- 7 Healthcare Team Meeting
- 12 Regional House Party (Pressley)
- 17 Night of Worship
- 17 GUSstudents Event Night
- 21 Easter Sunday (8:30a, 11a)
- 26 Men's Conference Weekend
- 1,8,15,22,29 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 @ 9AM
Adults Group



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
Tithe-Missions-Hub



ONLINE
graceunionstl.org

OUR STAFF IS HERE TO SERVE YOU

- **Rev. Bob Poley, Lead Pastor**
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- **Rev. Jason Myers, Associate Pastor**
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- **Patrick Daniels, Student Ministry Pastor**
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- **Carrie Indelicato, Worship Leader**
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- **Crystal Myers, Early Childhood Director**
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