

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



REGISTRATION OPENS TODAY FOR THE LADIES RETREAT! We will spend 3 days at the Designed for Life conference in Springfield, MO, October 10-12. The total cost is \$279, payable at registration, and includes the conference and hotel. Sign up in the lobby Sundays through September 29th. Contact Karen for more information at karenmomma@live.com.



PARENTS AND STUDENTS grades 1st-12th! This year's Christmas play is open for all students through high school. Anyone interested in the play should stay for the **viewing party & tryouts SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8**. The viewing party is for students interested in being in the play, as well as **students and adults who are interested in helping!** **Practices begin Sunday, 9/15** in the main Auditorium. Contact Mindy Adams at mindyadams82@gmail.com or Karen Poley at karenmomma@live.com.



REGIONAL PARTIES



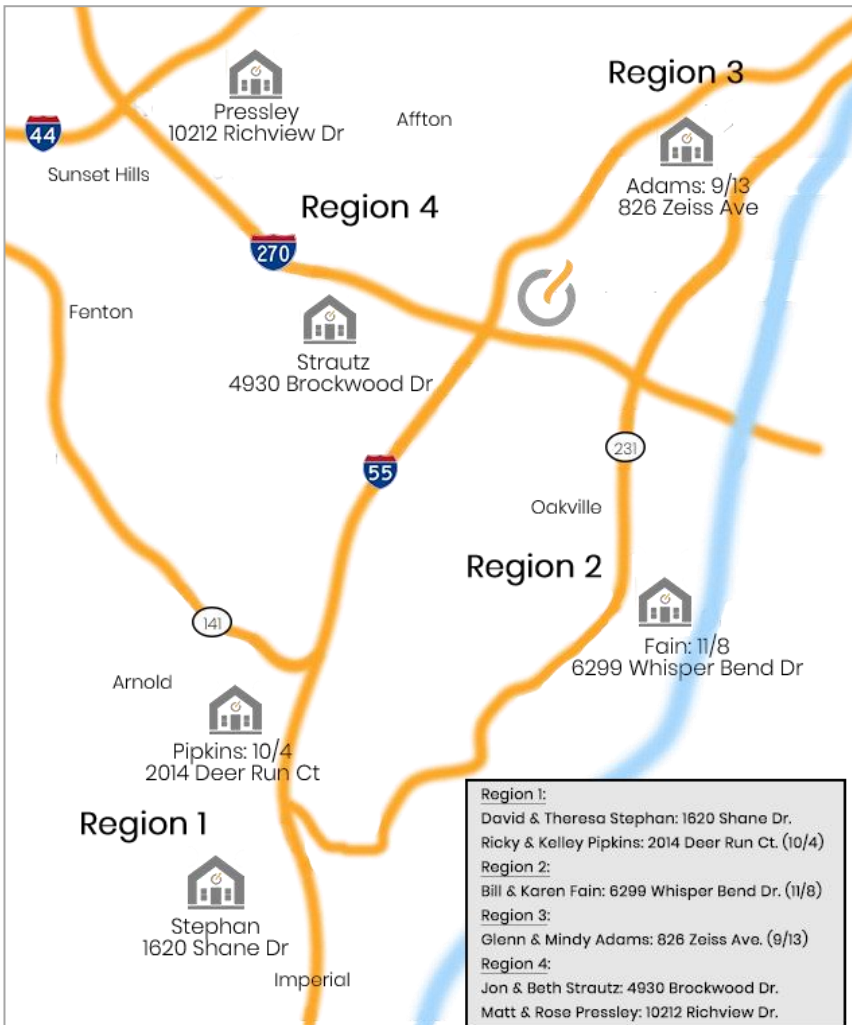
Get to know your GU neighbors with our Regional House Parties! See the map and schedule below to find your Region, host addresses and 2019 dates. Parties begin at 6:30 p.m. Bring a snack to share if able. If not, that's ok. Don't let that stop you from coming!

UPCOMING PARTIES:

Sep 13: Region 3 - Glenn & Mindy Adams

Oct 4: Region 1 - Ricky & Kelley Pipkins

Nov 8: Region 2 - Bill & Karen Fain



Come and Become: Bulbous

Matthew 5:1-12 - God invites us to Come to Him through Jesus just as we are, and he will cause us to Become something through following Jesus.

Matthew 5:27-32 - Jesus warned against "CULTIVATED LUST."

I. Problem: The role sex plays in our lives and culture has been Unnaturally Expanded.

- A. In the early 1900's Sigmund Freud popularized a theory that people are, fundamentally, sexual beings.
- B. Is it possible that WE HAVE AN IDOL?

1 Corinthians 6:12-15a

- 12 "I have the right to do anything," you say—but not everything is beneficial. "I have the right to do anything"—but I will not be mastered by anything.
 - 13 You say, "Food for the stomach and the stomach for food, and God will destroy them both." The body, however, is not meant for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body.
 - 14 By his power God raised the Lord from the dead, and he will raise us also.
 - 15 Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ himself?
- C. That culture operated on the underlying assumption that the Good Life was found in Always Answering Appetites.
 - To a certain degree ours does as well.

II. It is not always good to Answer when Desires Call.

- A. Paul condemned a pattern of living that made physical pleasure into a driving motivation in life.
- B. When it comes to sexual appetites, our wanter can no longer be trusted.

III. Paul warns about Consequences of Feeding Overgrown Appetites.

"I am free to do anything, but not everything is Beneficial."

- A. There are things that you are free to do, but doing them will bring you Harm.
- B. We are sometimes overly concerned with FREEDOM TO, when we should also be thinking about FREEDOM FROM.

"I am free to do anything, but I will not be mastered by anything."

C. Every time we say, "Yes," to an appetite, that appetite's influence in our life grows.

D. "Freedom to" can quickly become "Compulsion Under."

IV. A proper understanding of what we really are can shrink our Appetite back to a Healthy Size.

1 Corinthians 6:13b-15a

13 The body, is not meant for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body.

14 By his power God raised the Lord from the dead, and he will raise us also.

15 Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ himself?

A. Sex is not the Point of your physical existence. God is actually the point of your physical existence.

- God built you TO BE A PART OF MAKING JESUS PHYSICALLY REAL TO THE WORLD.

V. Point of Existence 101

A. Humanity is the only thing in creation that is both Physical and Spiritual.

B. God's intention is for humanity to Know him spiritually, and Represent him physically.

C. As such, you have been hardwired with an Appetite for Union and Intimacy with God.

Psalms 84:2-5,10

2 My soul yearns, even faints, for the courts of the Lord my heart and my flesh cry out for the living God.

3 Even the sparrow has found a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may have her young— a place near your altar, Lord Almighty, my King and my God.

4 Blessed are those who dwell in your house; they are ever praising you.

5 Blessed are those whose strength is in you,

10 Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere; I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.

D. As we draw what we need Spiritually we are able to be what we are intended to be Physically.

2019 PRAY PURSUE PARTY

AUGUST

- 4 Healthcare Team Meeting
- 4 GUSudents City Museum
- 9 Regional House Party (Strautz)
- 18 Who We Are Lunch
- 23 Leadership Appreciation Night
- 24 Men's Breakfast (Golden Corral)
- 25 Water Baptisms
- 25 Ladies Retreat Registration Opens
- 5,12,19,26 Food Addicts Anonymous

SEPTEMBER

- 1 LABOR DAY PICNIC
- 8 Kids Christmas Play Tryouts
- 11 Fall Wednesday Night Experience
- 13 Regional House Party (Adams)
- 13 GUSudents Lock-in
- 15 Christmas Play Practice
- 22 Child Dedication
- 26 Men's Dinner
- 27 Family Movie Night
- 29 Ladies Retreat Deadline

* 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
WEDNESDAYS @ 6:30 PM
Nursery-Elementary



SUNDAYS @ 9AM
WEDNESDAYS @ 6:30 PM



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



DAILY BIBLE READING PLAN
americanbible.org



PRAYER NEEDS
Email: gucprayer@gmail.com

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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