

GRACE MINISTRIES USA NEWSLETTER

Annual Newsletter 2020



Founder's Corner



Holy Scripture clearly reveals that life is not without storms and trials. 2020 will be known in lore to have an overabundance of opportunities to strengthen our faith. It is no time to become lukewarm as storms rage.

Grace Ministries USA has kept sailing through the storms drawing comfort and peace from our Lord. We embrace the strength of faith and trust in God in the hearts of the many saints in our ministry. Through trust in Christ, we support each other and continue reaching others as the body of Christ to glorify our savior in support our communities. Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another (Proverbs 27:17).

During the storms of 2020, our ministry has postponed a pilgrimage tour in Israel until 2022 and cancelled mission trips, including the orphanage in Mexico. We cancelled the annual Sporting Clay fundraiser. We transitioned our in-person meetings and Bible studies from small group meetings to virtual studies using Zoom video calls, at times reaching new people from across the nation. Through God's grace, we adapted. We celebrate and give thanks for many blessings in 2020 and making a difference in people's lives for Christ.

Grace Ministries USA continued our non-denominational ministry founded on reaching people for Christ and gathering many small-group Bible studies. We continue our ministries seeking to lead people into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ based on the infallible, authoritative Word of God. Please see other stories in this newsletter with more details. A few highlights are a new outdoor worship and preaching ministry, "Church in the Wild," reaching many new believers. We ordained our first pastor, the Rev. Bob Gallagher and expanded roles of many other clergy involved in the ministry. Devotions from our writing team continue to be shared through email, local newspapers and through our website.

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New Mission – Church in the Wild

Through the pandemic news headlines have told of church services and events being cancelled. Social distancing and masks are the norm for our daily lives. Most of our Sunday church services are now held online, live or recorded. Our church families are now often virtual families. There has been a church in the Youngsville area that has been able to meet because it is outside, called the Church in the Wild.



Daniel Whitlock, a seminary student and member of the Grace Ministries writing team, started a church service on the lawn outside a country tavern. Daniel asked Grace Ministries if we would like to help with the service at the venue. Since that time, we have continued to assist Daniel with Sunday services. As we invited others to the service and news spread, we were asked the name of our meeting. To be quite honest we didn't have a name. We looked around, standing in a field and surrounded by trees. Church in the Wild seemed to be a good fit.

Grace Ministries Pastor Bob Gallagher joined Bert Woodburn to help Daniel with Sunday preaching. Bob was able to preach for the first time as an ordained minister and produce a live feed of the service on Facebook.

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We continue our prayer ministry, weddings, baptisms and marriage counseling. We've seen many making decisions to follow Christ and rededicating their lives for Christ. We've shared food with hundreds of families, including supporting food pantries and community groups. Our clergy visited nursing homes in times of need.

We continued to support law enforcement and other first responders, including a campaign for our communities to fly the American flag to demonstrate support for law enforcement, other first responders, healthcare workers and other "essential workers" who helped us all navigate the storms of 2020. We gathered as believers to pray for our communities with our annual Prayer Walk. In the year ahead, we will continue to expand content on our website, provide more frequent updates in our newsletters and expand our social media presence. We are also planning to publish a book of devotionals.

We pray for God's continued blessings and your continued financial support to equip the saints and reach those who are not yet believers in our Lord and savior. We ask for your prayerful commitment to support Grace Ministries through your prayers, presence and stewardship of God's gifts. No matter how large or small, every gift matters for the cause of Christ and His work in our lives and our communities.

Grace Ministries has many ways you can show support through tax deductible donations. We welcome checks mailed to Grace Ministries, P.O. Box 595, Wake Forest, N.C. 27588. We also offer ways to donate electronically on our website [online donation page](#). We thank you for your gift in any amount as we continue our commitment to serve Christ as he commanded to us in Acts 1:8 "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." With your support, we are reaching out locally, regionally, nationally and to the ends of the earth.

(Continued from page 1— Church in the Wild)

In addition, Grace Ministries has been helping with spreading the word about the weekly worship service and assisting in follow-up of reaching out to people attending the worship service.

So where exactly is the Church in the Wild? It is held at a very non-traditional venue, Bud's Tavern, which has an outside covered stage, tables, and chairs. The rural area is located at 823 Youngsville Blvd, Youngsville, N.C. Buck, the owner of Bud's Tavern, said "This is the most important thing we do each week." Buck gets the word out to all his patrons about the worship service and many are now attending and bringing family members. Bud's Tavern is not a traditional place of worship, but it is a place where attendees know God loves them,



is present to them, and even has claim on their lives. Where you worship is less important than how you worship and who you worship - the one true God, our Lord, our Savior. You see Jesus teaches this wherever he could "Once again Jesus went out beside the lake. A large crowd came to Him, and he began to teach." Mark 2:13. So whether it be a lake, beach, laundry mat, movie theater or any location, the Gospel of Christ needs to be preached.



GMUSA New Board Member

Grace Ministries USA introduces the latest addition to the Board of Directors, Gabe Bowman. The Greensboro native grew up going to church and accepted Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior at 7 years old. Gabe was very active at his church by going to Vacation Bible School, mission trips and even helped with audio and



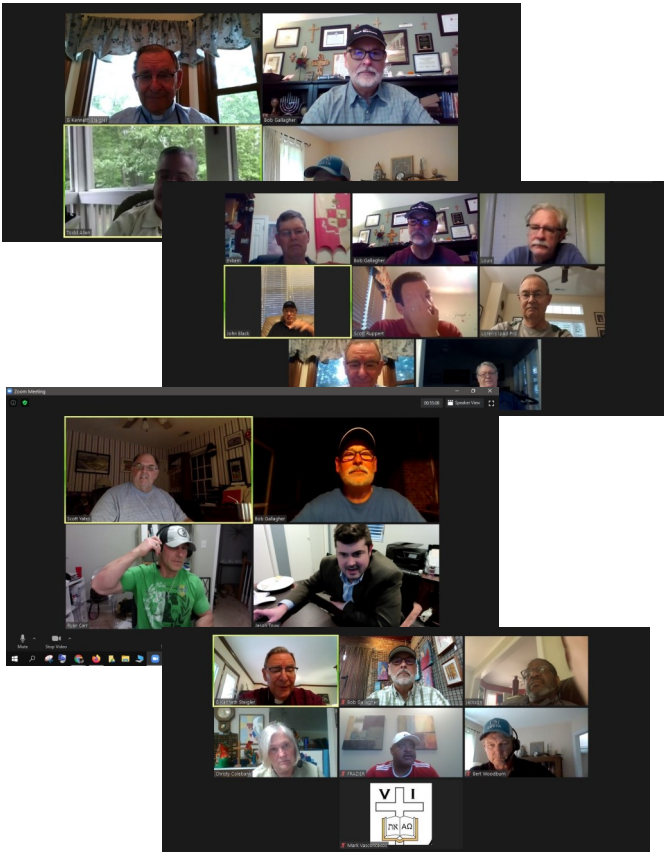
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Bible Studies Continue

When the pandemic began, Grace Ministries adapted. Bible study groups began gathering virtually with Zoom videoconferencing instead of restaurants, homes and other businesses. The virtual reach has allowed many study groups to expand, with people gathering from across the nation.

Bible studies are how we gather in small groups to discuss God's Word. Many studies use the SOAP method (Scripture, Observation, Application and Prayer) to facilitate discussion and exploration. Discussions build relationships of support and help equip members to reach out to others.



Some studies have transitioned back to in-person meetings or a blend of both in-person gatherings and other joining virtually through phones and smart phones. Other meetings for the ministry include walks in the park and outdoor round table discussions.

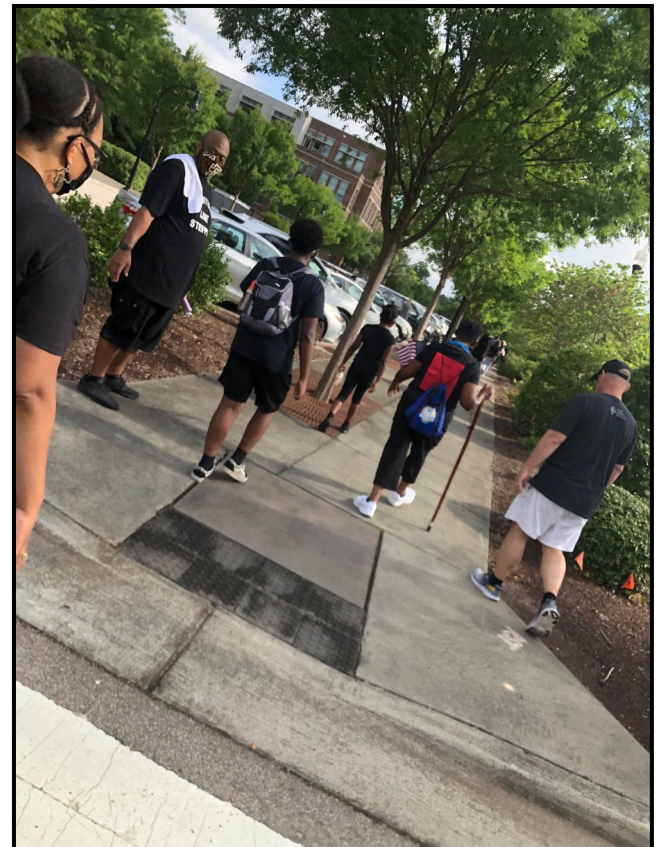
“For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.” Matthew 18: 20

3CM Prayer Walk

Our hearts have been burdened by events and attitudes that have been unfolding around us. We are challenged by a pandemic, political unrest, economic uncertainties, and beliefs that stray from God's Word. On

Reverend Enoch Holmway delivers message and prayer with Prayer Walk Participants

Saturday, June 6 people from diverse backgrounds joined as a united community and walked side by side at the 3CM/ Grace Ministries USA Prayer Walk in the town of Wake Forest. We spent the



morning together lifting their voices in prayer and song for local and national police officers, government officials, first responders, nursing home and hospital workers, reconciliation for our country and all who have been affected by the Covid-19 virus.

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Bob Gallagher Ordination

We extend congratulations to Robert (Bob) Gallagher as he was ordained as the first ordained minister within Grace Ministries USA on May 29. The ceremony took place at Friendship Chapel Baptist Church in Wake Forest NC. Bob served on as the Grace Ministries Board of Directors as chairman



and president since Grace Ministries was founded five years ago. We praise God for his expanded role as our new Grace Ministries teaching pastor in addition to his continued service as president.

Bert continues to serve as Grace Ministries lead pastor and other pastors formalized their roles in the ministry. The Rev. Leon Harris, who serves as an associate pastor at Friendship Chapel Baptist Church, has been serving on the ministry Board of Directors and will step into the role as the pastor for the board. Ken Steigler, known by many in our community and across the nation as "Rev. Ken" has long been a mentor for our ministry. Rev. Ken will serve as the Grace Ministries Mentoring Pastor. Rev. Ken is the founder of the Christian Clergy, Chaplains & Missionaries (3CM) interdenominational group that operates as part of Grace Ministries.

Prayer Ministry Continues to Grow

Each day a team of Grace Ministries prayer warriors humbly raise prayers to our Lord. Prayers are submitted at each Bible study group and through the ministry website. Robin Taylor volunteered to lead the Prayer Ministry team this year, gathering the prayers submitted and sharing a weekly email with full names kept confidential. Our Lord knows each one of us intimately. "There is incredible power and potential in prayer. Through prayer, we invite the God of the Universe into our lives.



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video on mornings. However, as Gabe grew older, his spiritual walk faltered for a short period of time.

"I compartmentalized my faith and I lived two different lives, a church life then a student life," Gabe recalled. "When it was time to go to college, I was pretty upset and mad about some things that happened in life, so I went to school wanting to do my own thing and live my own life. I partied a lot. In essence I became the modern day version of the prodigal son. After school, I had some eye-opening experiences that turned me back to Christ and going to church.

Along the way, Jesus also put people in my life that would have positive impacts on me. Looking back, I see Him there alongside me even during the lost days. I am thankful for those people and those experiences, because I would not be where I am today. God has certainly blessed me through grace beyond what I deserve."

Currently, Gabe attends Richland Creek Community Church where he is a member of a Young Professional Bible Study Fellowship group there. He now works at Edward Jones as a financial advisor. "I have always wanted to make a difference and have an impact in our broken world. My job allows me to do that by being a steward of my client's assets by planning for retirement, education and investments."

Our Minister to the Board

Pastor Leon Harris is now serving as the minister to the Board of Directors of Grace Ministries USA. Mr. Harris has been a full member of the board for two years and in that time, he has served in local missions and was part of our missionary team to NA-CO, Sonora, Mexico. Pastor Harris also serves at Friendship Chapel Baptist Church in Wake Forest, NC. In addition to providing spiritual leadership to a diverse Board of Directors the multitalented



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Prayer changes things, but even more, prayer changes us. Through prayer, we have the opportunity to reach our full potential in Christ. As we grow in our prayer life, we become more alive and more engaged with what God is doing. As we take steps to grow spiritually in our prayer life, the impact is incredible,” Robin said.

“God will move mountains and God will transform us into people of love, joy, and peace through prayer. We are called to pray, go, and serve. We do this in His Name, with His power, and locking arms with His people. We are truly better together. Jesus taught that prayer should like a discipline, something we spend time on and take seriously. Something we practice and develop. Prayer is the lifeline to your Father, and your Father loves you,” Robin said. “Prayer is a great thing. Whether we want to say thanks for what God is doing in our lives, or share our deepest fears and desires, we can say it directly to Him, any time we want.”

The Prayer Ministry is one of the many ways that Grace Ministries engages all members as the body of Christ. “Robin has been a blessing to the ministry since joining Grace Ministries,” said Lead Pastor Bert Woodburn.

Philippians 4:6-7 Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.



Prayer Request

Please pray for God’s healing and grace for our young friend Victor Gonzales who recently received a multi-organ transplant and is suffering complications. We will share more about his journey of recovery and faith in an upcoming newsletter.

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Pastor has been seen building picnic tables, painting basketball courts, plumbing repair performing baptisms at the Casa Hogar Emmanuel Orphanage in Naco, Sonora Mexico. Pastor Harris is also involved with Habitat for Humanity locally. Per Pastor Harris, “My purpose and intent in joining Grace Ministries is



two fold. 1) To Impact and encourage Leaders from all walks of life in their spiritual journey



Pastor Leon Leading VBS at Naco Sonora Mexico Orphanage

and 2) Share my journey and walk with our Lord Jesus Christ. It’s incumbent on all of us to be an example, ambassador and witness for the Lord. I believe as the word proclaims that “every good and perfect gift is from above”. Grace Ministries is blessed to have Pastor Harris as a member of the Board, he is a dynamic minister who loves the Lord.

Join Our Ministry

As we guide people to come to Christ, please consider supporting our ministry with prayers and participation. Pray for us to reach the lost and equip the saints. Share the Word with others and join one of our small groups, or consider starting your own group. Consider supporting us financially through a monthly or annual donation to empower our ministry. We ask for your prayerful commitment to support Grace Ministries through your prayers, presence and stewardship of God’s gifts. No matter how large or small, every gift matters for the cause of Christ, and His work in our lives and our communities. Grace Ministries USA is a non-profit, 501c3. All donations are tax deductible.

Visit us at: www.graceministriesusa.org/donate

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Grace Ministries USA

A Christian Faith Based 501c3
Organization

- Serving community
- Christian clergy, chaplains & missionaries (3CM)
- Prayer teams
- Sportsman outdoors events
- Men, Women & Couples Retreats

- Biblical counseling
- Marriage counseling
- Life coaching
- Visiting the sick

- Soup kitchen support
- Missions local, regional and international
- Support Israel missions through donations

Outreach

Spiritual Development

Pastoral Care

Worship

Missions

Stewardship

*Evangelism
Discipleship*

- Apologetics – “Glad you Asked”
- Bible study groups
- Devotion writing team
- Small group Interaction

- Fellowship
- Communion
- Baptism

- Fundraising to support ministry
- Foundation support
- Local businesses
- Individual contributions

- Deepening Faith & Trust in God
- Equipping and Supporting Spiritual Leaders

Who is Grace Ministries USA? What is our mission?

The graphic above shows the many areas of ministry supported by Grace Ministries USA. We are a growing ministry and are always looking into our vision of ministry so that all we do for our Lord Jesus' behalf is to bring Him glory, build up His church, and reach out to His world. We desire to be a ministry that points out that God wants to be prominent in all our lives. Our ultimate example of ministry is Jesus Christ Himself.

Our Mission – Trust God / Love God / Serve God

We believe in the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ. Because we believe that lost and sinful man must be saved, and that man's only hope of redemption is through the shed blood of Jesus Christ, we are devoted to helping all of us live the teachings of The Great Commission in our communities. The Great Commission at the end of the Book of Matthew is our guiding instruction to “make disciples of all nations.” We prayerfully ask the Holy Spirit to help us actively and compassionately share God's love. A foundation of our ministry is creating welcoming small-group meetings for believers in Christ to bring their family and friends.

The Great Commission

Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.

-- Matthew 28:19-20

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