Monthly Newsletter of
South Point Community
September 2026 ~ Volume 101



The Connection

A Word from Pastor Dave

"Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God." (Romans 5:1-2, NIV)

G.R.A.C.E – God's Riches At Christ's Expense.

This acronym offers a quick, helpful clarification of what Christians mean when discussing the New Testament's declaration of grace. Yet, there is so much more wrapped up in this subject, and no other book of the Bible dives into it quite like the Apostle Paul's Letter to the Romans.

I suspect most preachers love the book of Romans; I know I certainly do. Even so, I have never preached entirely through it. It is long, complex, and the first eleven chapters contain a mountain of gritty detail. The longest and most famous recorded sermon series on Romans was preached by Dr. Martyn Lloyd-Jones at Westminster Chapel in London, England. His legendary exposition ballooned to 366 sermons over twelve years, starting in October 1955 and concluding in March 1968.

Clearly, there is a lot to say about grace. Why do we need it? Why and how does God extend it? Why are people so frequently offended by it? Finally, how should we live in light of it?

September Dates

1st	Celebrate Recovery 7 pm
2nd	Prayer at Rosewood Erie Glen 10:30 am
2nd	CR Leaders Meeting 7 pm
3rd	Men's Genesis Bible Study at 2:30 pm
6th	Worship Service 10:30am
7th	Labour Day
8th	First Day of School
8th	Celebrate Recovery 7 pm
9th	Prayer at Church 10:30 am
10th	Men's Genesis Bible Study at 2:30 pm
10th	Catalyst Team Meeting 7 pm
13th	Celebrate Recovery Worship Service 10:30am
15th	Celebrate Recovery 7 pm
16th	Prayer at Church 10:30 am
16th	Young at Heart Potluck 12:15 pm
16th	Pastoral Team Meeting 7 pm
17th	Men's Genesis Bible Study at 2:30 pm
19th	Men's Breakfast 8:30 am
20th	Worship Service 10:30 am
22nd	Celebrate Recovery 7 pm

A Word from Pastor Dave cont...

The good news of God's great grace demands to be heard and shared even as Paul himself repeatedly declares, *"For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes,"* (Romans 1:16) and *"How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"* (Romans 10:15)

Unfortunately, in the ancient world, not everyone realized how Christ's Cross illuminated everything in the Old Testament. With the gospel in mind, the inevitability and supremacy of the suffering servant in Isaiah 53 suddenly pops. God's ancient promise to circumcise the hearts of His followers in Deuteronomy 30 shifts from a veil of mystery to a beautiful ring of relief and mercy. The pouring out of the Spirit in Joel 2 bursts with immediate hope. Whether looking at the stories of Adam, Eve, Abel, Noah, Abraham, or Sarah, history transforms from a rigid tally of obedience and failure into a tapestry of forward-looking faith; a faith grounded in endless hope and a Divine Mercy that reaches down from the Heavens.

In a nutshell, this is why Romans is so critical. The theology of the Epistles shines a bright light on the narrative of the Gospels, clarifying everything that came before them.

If you have ever looked through a high-powered microscope, you know the thrill of seeing a hidden world illuminated before your eyes. Without an explanation of what you are viewing, a common droplet of water from Lake Erie just looks bizarre. Who would imagine that a single drop could contain a fast-moving food chain? Green specks of algae multiply from diffracted rays of light, while single-celled swimmers like paramecia and amoebas dart through the microscopic wildly. Nearby, tiny multi-celled organisms munch on bacteria.

Romans functions exactly like that lens. In Paul's "Master Class on Grace," we receive a second chance to see God's grand story intersecting directly with our own. There is far more here than meets the eye, and it is going to be a fantastic journey!

September Dates cont.

- 23rd Prayer at Church 10:30 am
- 24th Men's Genesis Bible Study at 2:30 pm
- 25th My Father's House Spanish Prayer Service 9 pm
- 27th Communion Service 10:30 am
- 29th Celebrate Recovery Anniversary Meal 6:00 pm
- 30th Prayer at Church 10:30 am

September Birthdays

- 11th Roger
- 13th Jackson
- 14th Eden
- 16th Claudia
- 17th Oliver S
- 20th Katy M
- 21st Jacob
- 25th Abby
- 28th Eva





Barnabas Notes



Until I met Jesus and allowed Him to come into my life, I never realized what was available to all of mankind. I am loved unconditionally, by God, as we all are. I was offered forgiveness, salvation, and blessings, to a far greater extent than I could have achieved while trying to earn them on my own. It was impossible to please God with anything I could say or do.

When I met Him, The Holy Spirit came into my body. My mind was renewed, and I started thinking differently. I had a desire to read my Bible and discover the things that God had planned for my life. I Discovered that God's Grace is undeserved favor, unconditional love, given not only to me, but towards all people on earth. Grace is something none of us can earn, because it's freely offered by the creator of the universe.

The things or circumstances that were taking place in my life that I took for granted was actually God's Grace offered to me in different forms such as, forgiving my shortcomings (sins), kindness, goodness, strength for the day, the ability to serve others, and many more happenings in my life that I was living through.

Grace is available to everyone, but not all receive it. You can only receive His Grace by humbly accepting it as a free gift through faith in Jesus Christ, rather than trying to earn it through your own works.

Years ago, before any of this, I was asked the question, "If you were to die tonight do you think you would go to heaven, and if so, why." My answer was yes, because I was a good person, lived right, didn't swear, took care of my family, and so on. Wrong answer. The only way into heaven is putting your faith and trust in Jesus. That's when my life changed. The day I accepted this truth. God had offered me His free gift, Grace, all I had to do was accept it.

Steps to receive God's Grace. **Humble yourself**. Admit your need for God and let go of pride or the urge to earn His love. **Believe in Jesus.** Trust in Jesus Christ and His sacrifice on the cross for forgiveness. **Turn away from sin**. Confess your wrongs and choose to follow God's ways. **Pray Daily.** Give thanks to God openly and ask Him for the strength and help you need. **Read the Bible.** Study scripture to learn more about God's character and promises.

Here's a chorus to close out this note to you.

Grace, Grace, God's Grace
Grace that will Pardon and cleanse within
Grace, Grace, God's Grace
Grace that is greater than all our sin

~ Banabas

Perfect Summertime Peach Pie

2 pre-made Pie Crusts for 9-inch Pie Dish
3 lbs ripe Peaches (approx. 8 medium)
⅔ cup Granulated Sugar
½ cup Flour
1 tablespoon fresh Lemon Juice
1 teaspoon Cinnamon
¼ teaspoon Salt
2 tablespoons cold Butter, cut in cubes
1 Egg Yolk
1 tablespoon Coarse Sugar (for garnish)
2 teaspoons fresh peeled Ginger

1. Preheat oven to 400°F.
2. Place one of the pre-made pie crusts into the pie dish allowing the dough to hang over the sides.
3. Prep the peaches by peeling and cutting them into 1-inch chunks.
4. In a large bowl, stir together the sugar, flour, lemon juice, ginger, cinnamon, and salt.
5. Add the peaches and gently toss to combine. Pour the peach filling into the prepared pie crust and dot the pieces of butter over the filling.
6. Cover with the second pie crust and fold the edges of the top crust under the edges of the bottom crust and crimp to seal. Alternatively, create a lattice, weave or other decorative cover with second crust.
7. Whisk the egg yolk and 1 tsp of water in a small bowl and use a pastry brush to brush it over the top crust. Sprinkle with the coarse sugar and cut 3 to 4 slits in the top of the pie.
8. Place the pie on a baking sheet and bake for 20 minutes. Then reduce heat to 350°, foil edges if overbrowning, continue to bake for 40-50 minutes or until golden.

Prayer Corner

Lord, your grace bids us come. It's difficult to fathom the depth of it, measure it, or describe it.
Thank you for your saints who have helped us to express it through song. Amazing grace has a sound, it washes over us like a crimson tide, cleansing us from within.
We battle with doing what we should do and do what we shouldn't, but you never push us away or condemn. Your grace invites us back and you present us with a clean slate.
Jesus, your death and resurrection opened the floodgates of a grace that never runs dry.
We depend on you Holy Spirit running in and through us.
We know you won't give up working in and through us that this grace we don't deserve would filter through our impurities.
Make us vessels of your amazing grace. Use us to draw others to the precious flow that can make them as white as snow, as you call them to come. In Jesus name, Amen



Reflections By J'Aime





Autumn has been known to bring her boyfriend Logan to family gatherings. He is loved and welcomed, even when he shows up late. We pranked him one day, telling him that it was a time honored Pavao tradition that the last person to show up for the meal says grace. At the time, we figured he'd immediately catch on that we were joking. He did not. He said grace, we all laughed and moved on.

What is grace? We all hear the word as Christians, and we can all tell you that it's something God gives us and others. The free gift of love that we don't deserve and the forgiveness of sins that we can't stop doing.

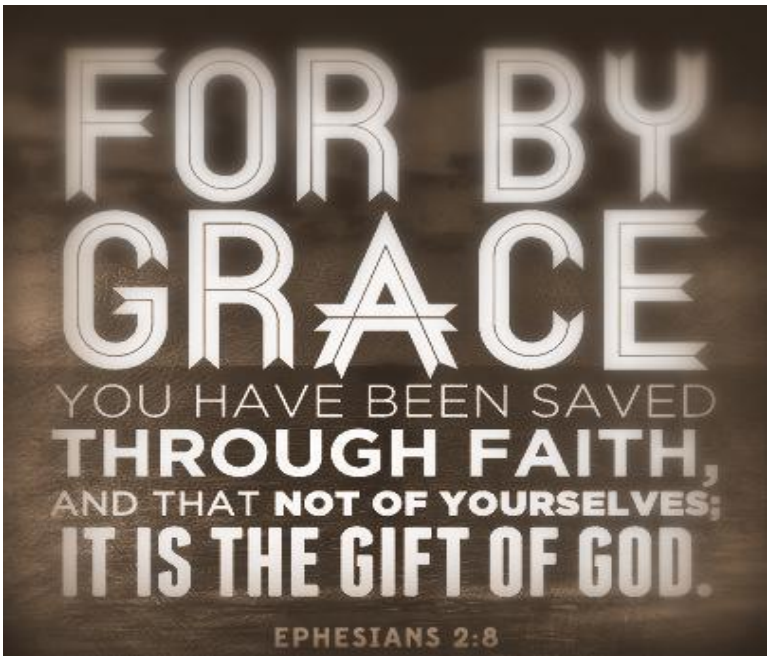
As I have grown older, I have found that gifting the gift of grace opens your eyes to understanding in situations that would otherwise be difficult. It can give you a moment to pause, breathe and take in what is happening before making snap judgements or saying something you later regret. Grace can shine a light on things that, while always illuminating, may not always be comfortable to deal with.

Grace can bring peace to turmoil and grace is why we can forgive others without apologies. Grace is what allows us to let go of past pains and shortcomings. God's grace is an undeserved mercy upon us that cannot be earned because it is given freely and without strings attached.

As people and part of the body of Christ we know the importance of giving grace, but as I age, I come to realize that the grace I hand out isn't my own. I am hot headed, impatient and short tempered. If plans don't go exactly as originally expected I lose my cool. That little voice inside me that reminds me to extend grace too easily gets lost in frustration and anger.

That's when I truly have to take a moment to step back and breathe. The power of grace is absolutely unbelievable. It's a proverbial lid pushed down over a grease fire. And it's a lesson I am still learning to this very day. I am not sure I'll ever truly grasp the power of it all.

God's grace is real despite it not always being visible. It is powerful even at times when you feel the weakest and it is peaceful especially in your storms. It shows you mercy while teaching you empathy for others and it represents the forgiveness of sins that couldn't otherwise be dealt with. It is ever present and all forgiving. A gift we don't deserve from a God who loves us despite who we are and what we do.





Random Thoughts from The Road

What is grace?
GRACE: a smooth and pleasing way of moving, a kind and polite way of acting, or a free gift of love and help that people do not need to earn

Have you ever really thought about that word? I mean stop and really thought about it?

We say grace before a meal, so is it a prayer? Yes! We use it as an adjective, a gracious host/ person, so is it descriptive? Yes! We use it as a pronoun of Reverence, Your Grace, so is it a title? Yes! When you stop and think about it, we use the word grace often, and in so many different ways in the run of a day.

We, as people, sometimes throw that word around without thinking about it. We freely give it away, or so we claim. More often than not, however, we can tend to use it as leverage, or even as a weapon! Ever done that? We forget the freely given away part! We act like it is something that we have control over! Do we really own it? I personally feel we don't. Why, because like everything else, it is a gift from God! So, shouldn't we use it to grow the Kingdom of God? Is that not its real purpose?

Ever heard the term “there but by the grace of God go I"? That indicates that it is a blessing!

Examples from the bible: Genesis 6:8, Genisis 19:19, Genisis 32:5, Genisis 33:8, Genisis 33:10. That is 5 examples from the book of Genisis alone. And they all have one thing in common; they all are examples of finding favor in someone else's eyes. How important is grace in scripture?
By Bible Translation
King James Version (KJV): The word appears 170 times across 159 different verses.

English Standard Version (ESV): It appears 131 times, with the vast majority appearing in the New Testament.

New King James Version (NKJV): It appears 151 times (128 times in the New Testament and 23 times in the Old Testament).
As per the internet.
That makes it seem kinda important I believe!

We all have heard the term " God's Riches at Christ's Expense!" Here’s a slant on that! Did you ever think that maybe this is the definition of each one of us? God found favor enough to make each one of us! We are God's Riches, so then we have value! Enough value that someone chose to give their life for us! Not just anyone, but God himself through His son Jesus! Maybe we need to believe in ourselves as much as the Creator of the Universe does! Do we need the favor of God?
Scripture reveals in Matthew 25:21:
"His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord."
This parable refers to how we use the gifts and talents God gave us. So, we are to strive to find God's favour! Wait, that sounds like work, doesn't it? So, grace is works based then? No, grace is getting what we don’t deserve. We deserve eternal separation from God, earned through our sinful nature. God doesn't do that! That was handled on the cross! In order to receive grace, God has to know you, how, through a relationship with Him! The grace given to us from God should make us want to be like him and demonstrate the gift of grace to others freely! To truly be like God is to help someone who has no ability to ever give back, and better yet not expect anything back!

That all sounds good, but rubber meets the road time, have you personally received grace Paul? Without a doubt! As someone who has almost died from double pneumonia, had several near-death experiences in a highly volatile, dangerous career, broken and had bones replaced, had COVID twice, had accidents, had pneumonia again (get the picture?), I really mean it when I claim that "there but by the grace of God go I..."

And that kinda scares me daily! The God of the universe knows me! He cares for me! He protects me! Why are you afraid then Paul. I am afraid because I know what is inside, what I don't show anyone, the faults, the shortcomings, the failures! I have to remind myself daily that God knows all these things too! He uses these things to strengthen my resolve and relationship with Him. If God figures I deserve His grace, who am I to argue. I therefore humbly accept it, knowing in my heart, that I sure didn't do anything to deserve it! All the glory goes to God!
~ AMEN

Ministry Highlight



It's hard to believe that summer is already coming to an end! Looking back, we have made so many wonderful memories together as a church family here at South Point.

This month, I would like to take a moment to highlight and thank all of the amazing volunteers who helped make our summer activities and services so special—Building Kick-Off & Fireworks, Ice Cream Night, Campfire Service, Baptism & BBQ, Teddy Bear Picnic, and so much more!

It truly takes many different people, each sharing their unique gifts and talents, to create these special moments and memories. We are so grateful for everyone who gave their time and helped make this summer such a great one.

As we head back into our regular routines, there are many opportunities to get involved and serve here at the church. Whether it's helping in the nursery once a month, serving in the Kids Wing, being a Greeter or Usher, joining the Worship Team, preparing food or helping with GST, setting up chairs, cleaning, or lending a hand in other ways—there is a place for everyone to serve!

If you're interested in serving in a particular area or would simply like more information, please feel free to talk to me after one of our services or give me a call at (226) 347-0033.

Thank you to everyone who helped make this summer so memorable.

We hope you enjoy looking through all the photos.

As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of the many-sided grace of God.
1 Peter 4:10, TLV

Campfire & Fireworks











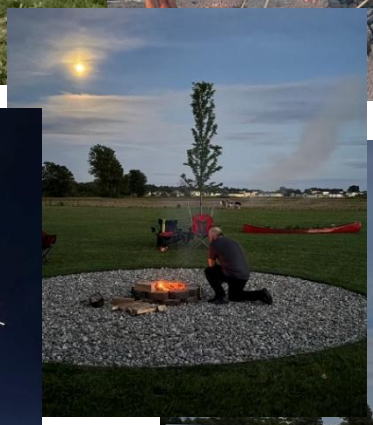
















I'm laying them down for the joy of the Lord
I'm laying them down for the joy of the Lord
I'm laying them down for the joy of the Lord



Ice Cream

Campfire Service





























Community Church Service – Hogs for Hospice



GO INTO ALL THE **WORLD**

and preach the gospel to all creation.

MARK 16:15

Baptism





















Teddy Bear Picnic































Indoor Campfire Service

