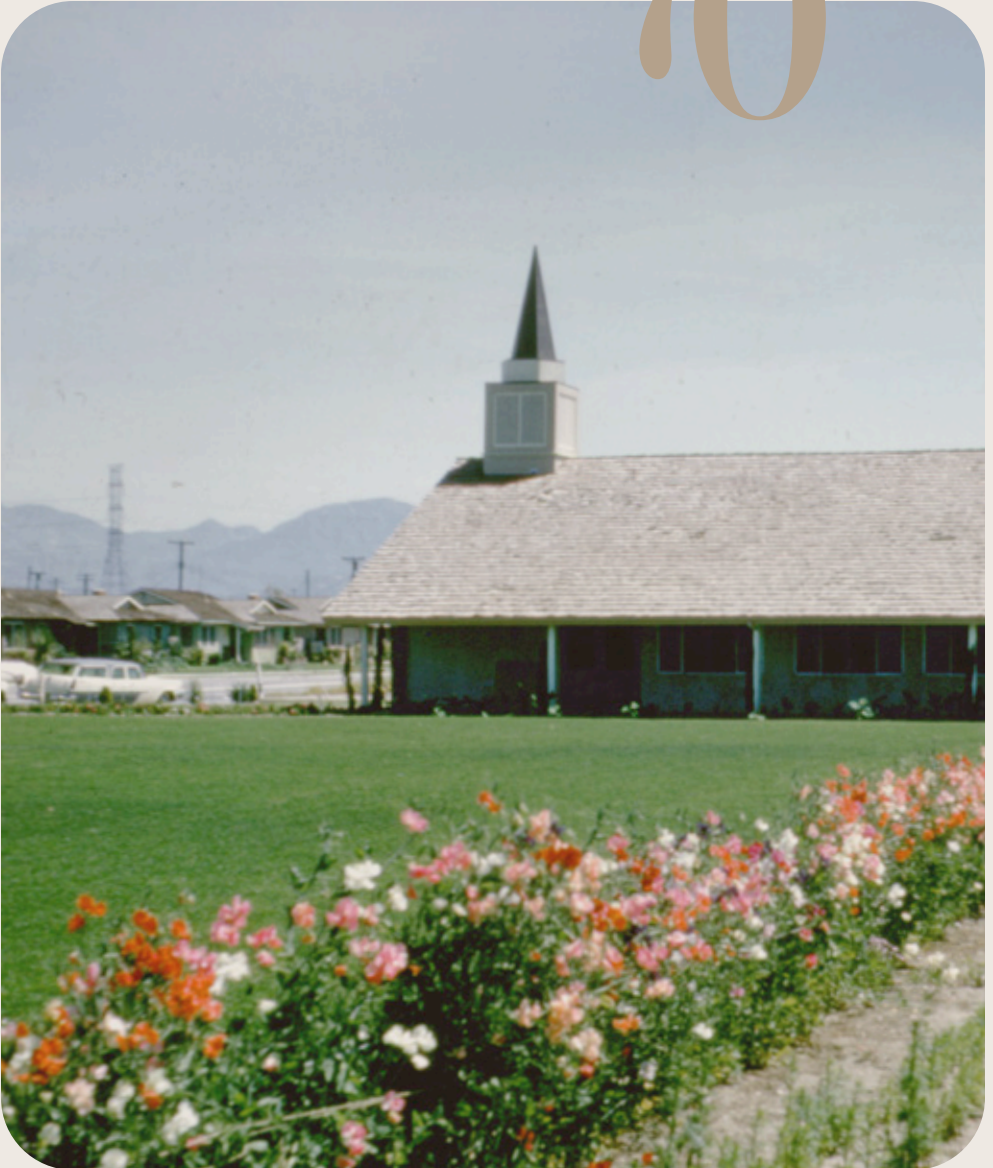


# Grace Today

July 12, 2026  
Volume 31, Number 28

Celebrating 70 Years of  
God's Faithfulness to  
Grace Community Church

# 70



# Today at Grace

**8 and 10:30 am**  
Coffee & Pastries

**9 and 11 am**  
Worship Services  
Fellowship Groups  
Grace Kids  
Spanish Ministries

**After Morning Services**  
Welcome Center  
Member Center  
Grace Books  
Scholar's Desk  
Steeple House Coffee

**12:30 pm**  
Lunch & Fellowship  
*Indoor seating is available in the Family Center and the Tower Building (Basement, Second Floor, and Third Floor).*

**1 pm**  
Neighborhood Outreach  
(Tower Basement)

**3 pm**  
Vespers Communion Service

*See back for building locations.*

During the 11 am and 3 pm services, interpreting in ASL is available in the Worship Center. Foreign-language livestreams for the 11 am and 3 pm services are available at [gracechurch.org/live](http://gracechurch.org/live).

We preach Christ, continuing the legacy of **Pastor John MacArthur** (served 1969–2025).

**70**  
grace  
community  
church

## Morning Worship Service – 9 and 11 am

Bill Brandenstein, Minister of Music

### *Sinfonia from Cantata No. 29*

Stephen Sturz, Organ Prelude • Bach

### Hymn 19 *To God Be the Glory*

Congregation

### *On the Jericho Road*

Men's Quartet—John Martin, Michael Bohr, Chris Burnett, Will Brandenstein • McCrossan/Rice

### Scripture Reading & Prayer

### *How Great Thou Art*

Worship Choir • Hine/Forrest

### Announcements & Offering

### *In Christ Alone*

Lesley Castellino • Craig-Koch/Clydesdale

### Hymn 433 *Now Thank We All Our God*

Congregation

#### MESSAGE

### Partnership in the Gospel

H.B. Charles Jr. • Philippians 1:3–8

### *Praise the Lord with Drums and Cymbals*

Organ Postlude • Karg-Elert

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#### TODAY

## Grace Community Church 70th Anniversary Celebration

### Celebrating God's Faithfulness

As we worship together this Lord's Day, we will give thanks for God's faithfulness to Grace Community Church over the past 70 years. Following the 11 am service, everyone is invited to enjoy lunch together on campus. The day will conclude with a Vespers Communion Service at 3 pm, featuring a commemorative video. Please note that there will be no regular evening service and Adventure Club will not meet. We hope you will join us as we rejoice in the Lord's faithfulness and celebrate His grace together as a church family.

## *How Great Thou Art*

O Lord, my God! O Lord, my God! How great Thou art!

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder  
Consider all the worlds Thy hands have made,  
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,  
Thy power throughout the universe displayed.

Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee;  
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee:  
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!

When through the woods and forest glades I wander  
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees,  
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur,  
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze,  
Then sings my soul, how great Thou art!

And when I think that God, His Son not sparing,  
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in,  
Then sings my soul, how great Thou art!  
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,  
He bled and died to take away my sin.

Then sings my soul, how great Thou art!  
When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation  
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!  
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,  
And there proclaim, my God, how great Thou art.

Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee;  
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee:  
O Lord, my God! O Lord, my God! How great Thou art!

Words and Music adapted by Stuart K. Hine (1922).  
Arranged by Dan Forrest. © 1949 and 1953.  
Renewed 1981 by Manna Music, Inc. UBP. CCLI Lic. 32723.

## BIOGRAPHY

### **This Morning's Speaker**

H.B. Charles Jr. is the pastor-teacher at the Shiloh Metropolitan Baptist Church of Jacksonville and Orange Park, Florida, where he has served since 2008. He is also the president of Jacksonville Baptist Theological Seminary. He is the host of *The On Preaching Podcast* and the author of numerous books, including *On Preaching* and *The Difference Jesus Makes*.

## New Here?

Following each Sunday morning service:

**The Welcome Center** hosts a reception for visitors.

**The Member Center** has information about membership and baptism.

**The Prayer Room**, located adjacent to the Worship Center, is staffed with counselors ready to talk and pray with you, following both the morning and 3 pm services.

*See back for locations.*

## GRACE KIDS

### Sunday School

9 and 11 am

**God Delivers Daniel from the Lions' Den**  
Daniel 6

Main Idea: Believers are faithful before God.

Application: Develop a habit of praying continually.

Featured Hymn: *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* (Hymn 86)

Review: How was Daniel faithful to God?

Next Week: Review Sunday

### Adventure Club

6 pm

*Adventure Club will not be meeting this evening due to the 70th Anniversary Celebration.*

For Sunday School locations, visit [Children's Check-In. gracechurch.org/gracekids](http://Children's Check-In.gracechurch.org/gracekids)

## *To God Be the Glory*

### *Congregation*

Praise the Lord, Praise the Lord,  
Let the earth hear His voice!  
Praise the Lord, Praise the Lord,  
Let the people rejoice!  
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,  
And give Him the glory—great things He hath done!

### *Women*

To God be the glory—great things He hath done!  
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,  
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin,  
And opened the life-gate that all may go in.

### *Men*

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood!  
To ev'ry believer the promise of God;  
The vilest offender who truly believes,  
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

### *Congregation*

Praise the Lord, Praise the Lord,  
Let the earth hear His voice!  
Praise the Lord, Praise the Lord,  
Let the people rejoice!  
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,  
And give Him the glory—great things He hath done!  
  
Great things He hath taught us, great things He hath done,  
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;  
But purer and higher and greater will be  
Our wonder, our vict'ry, when Jesus we see.

Praise the Lord, Praise the Lord,  
Let the earth hear His voice!  
Praise the Lord, Praise the Lord,  
Let the people rejoice!  
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,  
And give Him the glory—great things He hath done!

Praise the Lord, Praise the Lord,  
Let the earth hear His voice!  
Praise the Lord, Praise the Lord,  
Let the people rejoice!  
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,  
And give Him the glory—great things He hath done!  
And give Him the glory—great things He hath done!

The Chapel opens, 1957.



Construction on the  
Worship Center, 1976-77.



# Vespers Communion Service – 3 pm

*I Sing the Mighty Power of God* • Trad./Sturz

*Great Is Thy Faithfulness* • Runyan/Sturz

Stephen Sturz, Organ Prelude

Hymn 206 *Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners*

Hymn 354 *The Church's One Foundation*

Congregation

Scripture Reading & Prayer

*One Faith, One Hope, One Lord*

Worship Choir • Courtney/Rice

Announcements & Offering

*The Power of the Cross*

John & Lisa Martin • Getty-Townend/Hamilton

Hymn 352 *I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord*

Congregation

70th Anniversary Video

Message

Nathan Busenitz

Communion

*To God Be the Glory*

Organ Postlude • Doane/Sturz

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## ANTHEM

### *One Faith, One Hope, One Lord*

One faith, one hope, one Lord,  
One church for which He died,  
One voice, one song we lift in praise  
To Him who was and is and shall be  
evermore.

There is one Body, one Spirit,  
As you were called to one hope.  
One Lord, baptism and faith,  
One God and Father of all,  
Who is in you all.

One faith, one hope, one Lord,  
One church for which He died,  
One voice, one song we lift in praise  
To Him who was and is and shall be  
evermore.

Though we be many people,  
Diverse with various gifts,  
We are given to each other,  
For the unity of faith,  
That we grow in the knowledge of the  
Son of God,  
In the fullness of Christ.

One faith, one hope, one Lord,  
One church for which He died,  
One voice, one song we lift in praise  
To Him who was and is and shall be  
evermore.

One faith, one hope, one Lord, one God!

Words and Music by Craig Courtney,  
based on Ephesians 4:4–6, 11–13

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# A Timeline of God's Faithfulness: 70 Years at Grace Community Church

The history of Grace Community Church is, above all, a testimony to God's faithful providence. What began in 1956 with a small group of families seeking to meet a simple need became, by the Lord's gracious hand, a ministry that has touched countless lives around the world. At every stage of its history—from a humble gathering in a Van Nuys park to a nursery school, from a small chapel on a former chicken farm to a campus filled with worshippers and ministries with global impact—the Lord Himself has directed their steps (Prov. 16:9). This timeline traces some of those defining moments, not as a celebration of human accomplishment, but as a testimony to the faithfulness of God, who has built His church (Matt. 16:18).



1955

Families at the Little Country Church of Hollywood express interest in starting a children's ministry, but the request is declined.



Spring 1956

Families gather in a park in Van Nuys to determine interest in planting a new church. More than 100 people attend.

July 1956

**Grace Church begins. The first Sunday services convene in a nursery school in Van Nuys (currently Sherman Oaks), where walls are removed to accommodate the overwhelming attendance. Don Householder begins serving as teaching pastor.**



October 1956

Burton Michaelson notices a "For Sale" sign on a chicken farm at 13248 Roscoe Blvd. He meets with the owner, and the charter members purchase the property just days later.



July 1957

The chapel opens, and the first services are held on the Roscoe campus on the church's first anniversary.

September 1957

The Grace Church Choir begins.

January 1958

The College Ministry begins.

April 1958

Grace Church sends its first missionary family: Ed and Loretta Murphy.



April 1959

The Heritage Building opens.

May 1959

The press refers to Grace Church as "The Miracle Church of the Valley."



February 1960

Dolores Michaelson starts the church library.

April 1965

Don Householder passes away.

April 1966

**Richard Elvee becomes pastor.**



Summer 1968

John MacArthur speaks at Grace Church's high school summer camp.

September 1968

Richard Elvee passes away.

February 1969 **John MacArthur becomes pastor.**



November 1970 The Children's Center and Fireside Room are completed.

March 1971 Fundamentals of the Faith begins.

July 1971 The Family Center opens. "Always a Smiling Face at Grace."



September 1971 Grace Equip (then known as Logos classes) begins.

June 1972 *Moody Monthly* publishes "The Church of 900 Ministers."

July 1972 Grace Books (originally the Grace Book Shack) opens.



1973 John MacArthur's first book, *The Church: The Body of Christ*, is published.

December 1974 Grace Church sends out its first pastor, Darryl DelHousaye.

September 1975 The Spanish Ministry begins.

March 1976 The Deaf Ministry begins.



May 1977 **The Worship Center opens. "The Campus That Never Sleeps."**

May 1977 **Grace to You airs its first radio broadcast.**

July 1977 Special Ministries begins.



September 1977 The Talbot Seminary extension campus begins.

August 1979 Clayton Erb joins the staff as Minister of Music.



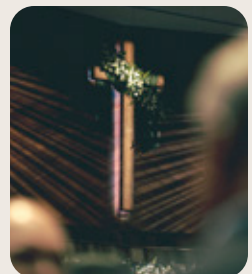
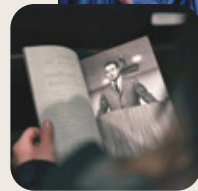
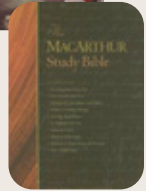
October 1979 Every Woman's Grace begins.

March 1980 **The first Shepherds Conference is held.**



September 1980 Grace School opens.

- September 1983 The Tower Building opens.
- September 1985 Pastor John is inaugurated as president of The Master's College (now The Master's University).
- August 1986 The Talbot Seminary extension campus becomes independent, and The Master's Seminary is established.
- January 1988 John MacArthur's *The Gospel According to Jesus* is published.
- February 1991 The first TMAI school is launched in Kyiv, Ukraine.
- January 1996 Grace Ministries International is established.
- October 1997 *The MacArthur Study Bible* is published.
- 2005 Generations of Grace is published.
- June 2011 John MacArthur completes preaching through the entire New Testament.
- December 2014 Steeple House Coffee opens.
- June 2016 The first Vacation Bible School is held.
- September 2016 The first Conferencia Expositores is held.
- 2018 Adventure Club curriculum is published.
- September 2021 **Grace Church prevails in its court case against the State of California and Los Angeles County, affirming the church's right to hold indoor worship services.**
- August 2022 Grace Academy opens.
- February 2024 Grace Church celebrates John MacArthur's 55th anniversary as pastor.
- July 2025 John MacArthur enters his heavenly rest.
- July 2026 **Grace Church celebrates its 70th anniversary.**



Grace Community Church's first service  
in Van Nuys (today Sherman Oaks), July 1, 1956.







## The McCracken Family

*Tony & Santie, James, Ammie, David*

### Missionaries serving in South Africa since 2003

Pray for continued unity and growth within our church congregation, The Phoenix Fellowship. Also pray that Santie's clinic dispensing license would be granted.

[gracechurch.org/mccracken](http://gracechurch.org/mccracken)

## Faith Promise

Last week you generously gave **\$24,089**. Thank you for your ongoing support of our missionaries.

[gracechurch.org/fp](http://gracechurch.org/fp)

### LOCAL OUTREACH SPOTLIGHT

## Armenian Outreach Bible Study

Every third Sunday afternoon, a group of Armenian believers from our congregation meets for fellowship, prayer, worship, and sound Bible teaching and discussion in their native tongue. If you speak Armenian, join us next Sunday. If you do not speak Armenian, but know someone who does, consider inviting them to our study.

Next Sunday, July 19, 1 pm, T370  
[gracechurch.org/armenian-outreach](http://gracechurch.org/armenian-outreach)

## Upcoming at Grace

- 7/17 Youth Strings Orchestra Recital
- 7/18-24 Camp Regen
- 7/19-8/2 Sundays in July
- 7/20-25 Together We Pray (TMAI)

[gracechurch.org/calendar](http://gracechurch.org/calendar)

### HIGHLIGHTS

## Sundays in July

During the month of July, our regular Sunday morning Fellowship Groups go on hiatus. Designed to be a time of refreshment and fellowship with our Grace Church family as a whole, these four weeks allow our congregation to enjoy a wide variety of teaching. Our prayer is that you will be refreshed and renewed by these times of equipping.

Please note, Sundays in July will not be taking place today, and Fellowship Groups will meet as usual for a time celebrating our church's 70th anniversary. The remaining Sundays in July seminars will be held on July 19, July 26, and August 2.

[gracechurch.org/sij](http://gracechurch.org/sij)

## Short-Term Ministries Highlight:

### Team England

Pray for our England team, which departs for the field this Wednesday, July 15, and returns July 25. Team England will conduct a VBS during The Master's Fellowship Pastors' Family Retreat, allowing parents to fully engage in teaching, counseling, and fellowship.

### Team Mexico

Pray for our Mexico team, which departs for the field this Friday, July 17, and returns August 2. Team Mexico will serve two churches in Mexico City and Monterrey by conducting a VBS and youth camp and supporting a marriage conference designed to strengthen families.

### Team Camp Regen Games Crew

Pray for our Camp Regen Games Crew team, which departs for the field this Friday, July 17, and returns July 25. Games Crew will run games and activities at our annual high school summer camp.

[gracechurch.org/stm/teams](http://gracechurch.org/stm/teams)

Grace Today commemorative cover postcards are available for purchase in the bookstore.

## Pray for Camp Regen

Pray for our high school students as they depart for summer camp this week. Please note that 180 will not be meeting next Sunday.

## Youth Strings Orchestra Recital

The Music Department's annual Youth Strings Orchestra Workshop concludes this week with a recital in the Worship Center. All are invited to join us this Friday as these young musicians present the hymn arrangements they have been learning throughout the workshop.

Friday, July 17, 7 pm, Worship Center  
[gracechurch.org/music](http://gracechurch.org/music)

## TMAI Together We Pray

The Master's Academy International invites you to a dedicated week of prayer for specific regions, churches, and TMAI training centers around the world. For specific prayer requests and to learn how to get involved, visit TMAI's website.

July 20–25  
[tmai.org/togetherwepray](http://tmai.org/togetherwepray)

## With the Lord

**Sam Britten**, one of Grace Community Church's founding members, is now in the presence of the Lord. We will have a memorial service in his honor Friday, October 16, at 3 pm in the Worship Center. Please keep his family in your prayers.

**Amy Merlo** is now in the presence of the Lord. We will have a memorial service in her honor this Thursday, July 16, at 2 pm in the Chapel. Please keep her family in your prayers.

*Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His godly ones (Psalm 116:15).*

Thank you for faithfully partnering in the ministry of our church as an act of worship to our Lord. Give during any of today's services or at [gracechurch.org/giving](http://gracechurch.org/giving).



## Learn Biblical Hebrew Through Grace Education

Grace Education is excited to offer an online Biblical Hebrew course series designed for students in sixth grade and up. A separate cohort of this class is available for adults. These short-term online courses include video lessons, student assignments, and periodic live sessions with an engaging instructor.

### Biblical Hebrew 1A

This ten-week module provides a strong foundation as the first of ten modules in Grace Education's multi-year Hebrew sequence. By the end of Hebrew 1A, students will be able to confidently read, write, and pronounce any word in the Hebrew Old Testament, while mastering approximately fifty vocabulary words.

September 14–November 20

Cost: \$250 (Grace Education students receive a 10% discount.)

Register: [graceeducation.org/hebrew-curriculum](http://graceeducation.org/hebrew-curriculum)

## Grace to You

Radio: *The End Is Not the End*

KKLA 99.5FM LA / M–F 6:30 am & 7:30 pm  
KDAR 98.3FM Oxnard-Ventura / M–F 2 & 10 am; Sun 2 am  
KABC 790AM LA / Sat 7:30 am

TV: "The Triumph of God's Love, Part 2"

NRBTV Ch. 378 on DirecTV / Sun 6:30 pm

[gty.org](http://gty.org)

## Job Openings

*PT: Part-time; FT: Full-time*

### Grace Church

*Applicants for employment must be, if employed, biblically qualified as a deacon or deaconess and a member of Grace Church. For more information or to request an application, contact Human Resources at [hr@gracechurch.org](mailto:hr@gracechurch.org) or 818-909-5672.*

- Audio Visual Technician, PT
- Background Check Coordinator, PT
- Barista, PT
- Dishwasher, PT
- Grace Academy, K–8 Teachers, FT/PT

For a full description of jobs and benefits, visit [gracechurch.org/jobs](http://gracechurch.org/jobs).

## Sunday Ministries

For a complete list of Sunday and midweek ministries, including those for men, women, and specific age groups, visit [gracechurch.org/ministries](http://gracechurch.org/ministries).



### 9 am

#### **Anchored T360**

Pastor: Carl Hargrove

#### **Cornerstone T370**

Pastors: Nathan Busenitz, Mark Tatlock, Mark Zhakevich

#### **GraceLife**

*Family Center*

Pastors: Phil Johnson, Mike Riccardi

#### **Steadfast T270**

Pastors: Brian Biedebach, Brian Milam

#### **Xchange (Middle School)**

*T70 (Tower Basement)*  
Pastor: Jay Lennington

### 11 am

#### **180 (High School)**

*T70 (Tower Basement)*

Pastor: Isaías Muñoz

#### **Commissioned T270**

Pastors: Rodney Andersen, Brad Klassen

#### **Crossroads (College & Young Adults)**

*Family Center*  
Pastor: Steve Crawford

#### **Joint Heirs T360**

Pastors: Tom Patton, John Street

#### **Sojourners T370**

Pastors: Abner Chou, Joe Zhakevich

### 9 and 11 am

#### **Grace Kids**

*For room locations, visit Children's Check-In.*

Pastor: Jay Lennington

#### **Developmentally Disabled CC130E**

Pastor: Rick McLean

#### **Spanish Adult**

#### **Sunday School T260**

Pastor: Josiah Grauman

#### **Spanish Worship**

#### **Services Chapel**

Pastors: Josiah Grauman, Rubén Pidal, Tom Rios

## Campus Map

13248 Roscoe Blvd  
Sun Valley, CA 91352  
818-909-5500  
[gracechurch.org](http://gracechurch.org)

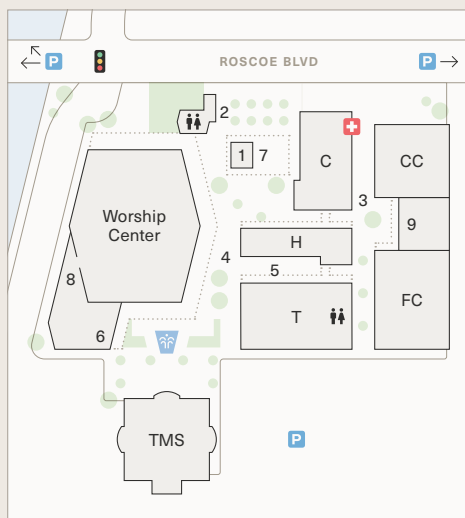
Public Wi-Fi:  
Grace Church Wi-Fi

Password:  
Proverbs3:5-6

*Please note that today's worship services are being livestreamed and recorded. In addition, your likeness may be recorded or photographed while on campus. Your presence on campus constitutes your permission to Grace Community Church to use images or video of your likeness.*

### Legend

- T Tower
  - H Heritage
  - CC Children's Center
  - FC Family Center
  - C Chapel
- 1 Welcome Center
  - 2 Member Center
  - 3 Children's Check-In
  - 4 Patio
  - 5 GraceWalk & Steeple House Coffee
  - 6 Grace Books
  - 7 Scholar's Desk
  - 8 Prayer Room
  - 9 Well-Baby Cry Room
- PM Location:  
Welcome Center (1)



### Pastor John MacArthur

was pastor-teacher of Grace Community Church for 56 years (1969–2025). His weekly verse-by-verse exposition of God's Word firmly rooted our church family in truth. Grace Church continues that legacy, seeking to glorify God by proclaiming the gospel.

### Family of Ministries

**Grace to You**  
[gty.org](http://gty.org)

**The Master's Seminary**  
[tms.edu](http://tms.edu)

**The Master's University**  
[masters.edu](http://masters.edu)

**The Master's Academy International**  
[tmai.org](http://tmai.org)

**John MacArthur Trust**  
[jmacarthurtrust.org](http://jmacarthurtrust.org)

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