



Dr. Ray Stewart
Senior Pastor

16999 E. 23rd St. S.
Independence, MO 64057
Phone: 816-229-1611
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New Member Handbook

John 1:14

And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

Welcome to Grace and Truth Baptist Church

A Message from Dr. Ray Stewart

Welcome to Our Family!

We are so grateful that you have chosen to become a member of our Church! It's our privilege to serve Christ alongside you as part of the Grace and Truth Baptist Church family. Together, we strive to glorify God, grow in faith, and carry out His mission.

We're excited to support you as you deepen your relationship with Christ and serve in His name through your new relationship within our Church!

Our hope is that this handbook will provide you with an understanding of our Church culture, doctrinal beliefs, objectives and resources. It is also intended to share the opportunities we provide for our members to learn, socialize, establish relationships, minister, serve and grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour.

*Sincerely,
Dr. Ray Stewart – Senior Pastor*





GTC Organization Chart

Senior Pastor
Dr. Ray Stewart
Pastor.Ray@gtckc.org
(816) 229-1611

Worship Leader
Audio Visual
Andrew Ward
gtckcavdept@gmail.com
(913) 488-4509

Director Church
Operations/Administration
Dawn Stewart
Dawn.Stewart@gtckc.org
(816) 522-3245

Finance Officer
Treasurer
Craig Pryor
Craig.Pryor@gtckc.org
(816) 686-2465

Women's Ministry Leader
Dawn Stewart
Dawn.Stewart@gtckc.org
(816) 522-3245

Men's Ministry Leader
Pastor, Ray Stewart
Pastor.Ray@gtckc.org
(816) 229-1611

Usher/Greeter - Manager
Finance Officer Assistant
Steve Langum
Steve.Langum@gtckc.org
(816) 510-1895

Nursery
(Crib – 4 years)
Elvira Carrol
Elvira.cunningham13@gmail.com
(816) 908-5154

Children's Ministry
(Ages 5 -12)
Dawn Stewart
Dawn.Stewart@gtckc.org
(816) 522-3245

Youth Ministry
(12 – 18)
Alex Sanders
Alex.Sanders@gtckc.org
(816) 394-0986

Event Coordinator
Tiffany Thomas
Church.Events@gtckc.org
(816) 214-7933

Community Food Pantry
Fireworks Tent
Jhon Branch
(816) 456-0637

Kitchen Supervisor
Rosa Vernon
roseavernon@icloud.com
(816) 214-7933

Admin Assistant
Wanda Murry
gtckc.officeassist@gmail.com
(816) 721-5967

Jackson Detention Center (Jail)
Pastor, Ray Stewart
Pastor.Ray@gtckc.org
(816) 229-1611

Security
Brian Carroll
thairoundkick@gmail.com
(816) 352-3904



Dr. Ray Stewart – Sr. Pastor
Grace and Truth Baptist Church
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Independence, MO 64057
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Grace and Truth Baptist Church is committed to seeing the Kansas City Metropolitan area become a place where lives are transformed, families are impacted, marriages are strengthened, and Christ is glorified. The ministries of Grace and Truth are centered in fulfilling God's plan for the Universe, Planet earth, and the individual lives of its members.

Dr. Ray A. Stewart is the Senior Pastor of Grace and Truth Baptist Church. Pastor Ray has a large presence in the recovery and incarcerated community and works with individuals to help them learn and apply "biblical principles" designed by God to see lives transformed by the renewing of their minds.

Pastor Ray has been married to his "Help Meet" Dawn Stewart since May 23, 1980, and together they have two adult children and two grandchildren.

Ray has more than 30 years of ministry experience and biblical training and formal education which includes:

Kansas City Baptist Temple Graduate of Shepherd School of Ministry and a Doctorate Degree in Biblical Exposition, Andersonville Theological Seminary.

Pastor Ray's ministry experience also includes serving as Chaplain - Jackson County Detention Center (JCDC). Chaplain - Houses Hearts and Hands (H3) - Men's transitional home. Certified (Prepare/Enrich) Marriage Counselor. Principle Counselor - City Union Mission (CUM). Associate Pastor - 1st Regular Baptist Church (Kansas City). Worship Leader - Southview Baptist Church (Raytown). Youth Athletic Director (Kansas City Baptist Temple). Small Group Leader (Kansas City Baptist Temple) Credentials Committee - Blue River Kansas City (BRKC).

Professional Career Includes:

- United States Army - (7 years)
- Military Aircraft Airframe Mechanic, Grumman Aerospace- (4 years)
- Licensed Aircraft Airframe and Power plant Mechanic, Contract Project Manager, TWA – (15 years)
- Automotive & Powersports Consultant – Business Owner (10 years)

His Missions Trips (Foreign and Domestic) Includes:

- Malawi Africa
- South Africa
- Canada
- New Mexico
- Texas

Our history

Grace and Truth Baptist Church, a multicultural, multi-ethnic church plant which started in the Lee's Summit area of the Suburbs of the Kansas City Metropolis.

Our first Church service was held on September 6th, 2009, in the home of Ray and Dawn Stewart in Lee's Summit, Missouri with six people in attendance. Grace and Truth Church gathered for worship and fellowship at the locations listed below until the purchase of our current building at 16999 E 23rd St. S. 64057 (March 2021) ...

- 2724 SW Regal Drive, Lees Summit MO 64082 - (9/2009)
- 4001 NE Lakewood Way, Lees Summit, MO 64064 - (3/2010)
- 1850 NE 40 HWY, Lees Summit, MO 64063 - (6/2012)
- 15904 E 23rd St So, Independence, MO 64055 - (11/2015)

At Grace and Truth Baptist Church we are firmly committed to holding fast to the doctrinal truths of the Word of God and the Grace applied through our Lord Jesus Christ. Our church members come from every area of the Kansas City Metropolitan region, its surrounding suburbs and beyond. Our focus is transforming lives by applying the principles of the Word of God.

Our mission is founded on the belief of creating a culture ***“Where the People Are the Church”***

Missions / Associations we support

- Mulunguzi Community Church – Malawi, Africa
- Passion Center for Children – Malawi, Africa
- Blue River Kansas City
- International Missions Board
- City Union Mission
- Jackson County Detention Center

And the Lord added to the church daily

Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.
Acts 2:47 (KJV)

Membership Defined

Church membership shall be extended to all who have accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Savior and upon their profession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ have followed Him in baptism by immersion. They must also desire to fellowship with this local church and recognize this church as their spiritual home, have regular attendance, invest themselves in the ministry of the church, and supports the church with their tithes, offerings and sacrificial giving.

Discipline of a Member

Church members are expected to live a life that would be consistent with biblical teachings (1st Corinthians 5, 2nd Corinthians 2). In some cases, action contrary to the scriptures places a self-inflicted condition in the spirit of humility after examining themselves. If restitution is not achieved, then termination of the member will occur. The objective of church discipline is to restore an individual to fellowship within the Church and to glorify God. Confession, repentance, forgiveness and restitution must occur to restore fellowship and membership in the church (1st Corinthians 5, 2nd Corinthians 2, Matthew 18:15-20).

Government

We believe the New Testament teaches the absolute autonomy of the local church and that it is to govern itself as the Word of God instructs, free from outside authority and control (Matthew 16:18, Romans 13:1) within the guidelines of Federal and State laws.

Doctrinal Statement

The essentials of our beliefs include the authority, sufficiency, and inerrancy of the Holy Bible as found in the King James 1611 Authorized Version. We believe:

- That **all** portions of the scriptures are equally inspired and contain no contradictions.
- That the scriptures are inerrant, infallible and God breathed.
- That they are the final authority of faith and practice.
- The Trinity.
- The full deity and humanity of Jesus Christ.
- The total depravity and spiritual lost ness of humanity.
- The substitutionary atonement and bodily resurrection of Jesus Christ.

- Salvation by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone.
- Assurance of salvation and the security of the believer; and
- The imminent, physical return of Christ.

Objectives

1. To establish a multicultural, multiethnic Ministry that is centered in the belief and in the sovereignty of God, even the Lord Jesus Christ.
2. To teach that Salvation comes only through the person of the Lord, Jesus Christ, by grace through faith.
3. To teach that the Holy Bible is the *inspired*, verbal, plenary (*full and complete*), inerrant Word of God and that the Word of God is preserved in the English language as found in the King James 1611 Authorized Version (KJV) and, when rightly divided, is the complete and final authority in matters of faith (doctrine) and practice.
4. To follow New Testament scripture and be as close as possible to the New Testament example and model of what the church should be and how it should operate.
5. That the church at Antioch is the model church for us and will be the example of how we should operate as a church.
6. That the church will be free from any form of church politics or management by committee(s), but rather through the biblical process of God leading the Pastor and the men and women in the church to follow God's plan for our church.
7. That the leadership of the church today as with the church at Antioch, should come from within as men and women grow and develop spiritually through ministry.
8. That those recognized by the church body to be separated unto ministry will become the leaders in the church through the spiritual growth process and not through a political voting process.
9. Those recognized for leadership must be proven to meet the qualifications described in 1 Timothy 3:1-13 Titus 1:6-9 and 1 Peter 5:1-4. Their wives should be a member in good standing, of good report, proven to meet the criteria described in 1 Timothy 3:11 and Titus 2:3-5.
10. That the spiritual growth process begins with the Pastor personally training men and women in the Word of God and using the model of the Apostle Paul's teaching of Timothy, and over time implementing a biblical training program of teaching and training men and women in the Bible and in ministry.
11. To observe, as believers, the ordinances of Baptism and the Lord's Supper, remembering Christ's death and shed blood on our behalf (1 Corinthians 11:23-26).
12. To promote fellowship wherein Christians are devoted to one another, honor one another, are kind and compassionate to one another, instruct one another, pray for one another, encourage one another, edify one another, and most importantly Love one another.
13. That the local assembly will be self-governing, self-supporting, and self-propagating as possible.

Connecting with Us

At Grace and Truth, we believe that the teaching of the Word of God and the fellowship with like-minded believers is the heartbeat that promotes transformed lives, as are the obeying of the principles written therein.

We meet each Sunday morning at 9:00 am for Adult Sunday School, and at 10:00 am for our Main Worship Service and Children's Church. We also meet every Wednesday evening for Bible Study at 7:00 PM.

Our members also have opportunity to participate in other types of Study/Fellowship Grace Groups we offer which are designed to help meet your spiritual and social needs during various dates/times each month.

Our Church Purpose

*'Where the People are the Church
Experiencing their Best Life in Christ Jesus'*

Because our membership comes from every area of the city, our objective is to start small groups in each area of the metropolis where we are represented.

Matthew 28:19-20

commands us to ...

"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have command you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Our Purpose - To become a church where the members are recognized throughout their communities and their workplaces as the 'Church'

- A Church that crosses boundaries and takes risks to share the gospel with anyone willing to hear - (Acts 11:19-22)
- A church that reaches many for Christ and equips them with the Truth in the Bible so that they can become effective servants for Christ - (Acts 11:21-26)

- A Church that embraces team leadership which is rooted in strong, personal relationship with Christ and other believers - (Acts 13-14)
- A church that teaches Truth and applies Grace and compassion towards the under-resourced, those that are suffering and those who are under the bondage of sin - (Acts 11:27-30), (2 John 1:3), (Matthew 14:14)
- A Church that reproduces itself by birthing new communities of Christ-Followers - (Acts 14:26-27)
- A church that finds its value in Christ *alone* using the Word of God as its absolute final authority - (2 Timothy 3:16-17), (Proverbs 3:5-6), (Psalm 119-105), (Acts 11:23)

Our Target

To reach all lost people in our Member's Indigenous communities, neighborhoods, workplaces, friends, families and around the world

Our Vision Strategy

Because our membership comes from every area of the city, our objective is to start small groups in each area of the metropolis where we are represented.

Matthew 28:19-20 commands us to ...

“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: 20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have command you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Acts 1:8

“But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.”

Our Beliefs:

The Bible

We believe in one God who exist in three distinct equal persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. He is the creator of the universe, never changing, eternal, all-powerful and unending in love.

Genesis 1:1; Matthew 3:16-17; 1 John 5:7-8

The Bible is the 'Owner's Manual' for the Believers life.

The Bible contains the mind of God, the state of man, the way of salvation, the doom of sinners, and the happiness of believers. Its doctrines are holy, its precepts are binding, its histories are true, and its decisions are immutable.

Read it to be wise, believe it to be safe, and practice it to be holy. It contains light to direct you, food to support you and comfort to cheer you. It is the traveler's map, the pilgrim's staff, the pilot's compass, the soldier's sword, and the Christian's charter.

Jesus Christ

We believe that Jesus Christ (the Son of God) became flesh to reveal God to man and rescue the world from evil. He, being fully God yet fully man, is the only person to live a sinless life. He was born of a virgin and took the weight of sin and evil in the world on the cross so mankind could be free from the penalty of sin and creation would be redeemed. He rose from the dead on the third day according to the Scriptures, ascended to the right hand of the Father, and will return again in power and glory.

Isaiah 9:6; Matthew 1:18; John 1:1, 14; 3:16; 1 Timothy 3:16; Hebrews 4:15

Holy Spirit

Given at Pentecost, it is the promise of the Father, sent by Jesus after His Ascension, to empower the Church to preach the Gospel throughout the whole earth

Joel 2:28-29; Matthew 3:11; Mark 16:17; Acts 1:5,2:1-4, 17, 38-39, 8:14-17, 10:38, 44-47, 11:15-17, 19:1-6

The Salvation Question

Have you ever asked why God created the plan for Salvation or Why he allowed his Son to suffer the way he did on the Cross?

The reason he did is because every person ever born was born a Sinner ... a descendant of Adam. Sin is your genetic makeup ... its in your DNA. Only Adam was created after God's Image and Likeness. Everyone else was born after Adam's image and likeness which was born from sinful seed or sinful DNA.

Genesis 5: 1 & 3

This is the book of the generations of Adam. In the day that God created man, in the likeness of God made he him

And Adam lived an hundred and thirty years, and begat a son in his own likeness, and after his image and called his name Seth

Because you were born as a Sinner, you are destined to spend eternity in hell.

- **Romans 5:12**

Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned.

- **Romans 6:23**

For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Christ our Lord

God made a simple plan for you to change your destiny today ...

- **John 3:3**

Except a man be Born Again he cannot see the Kingdom of God.

How can you be born again? ... How can you get rid of the Sin that's in your DNA?

Jesus made the way and he made it simple for you to do... It only requires that you have a head and a heart

The Way

- **Romans 10:9**

That if Thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead... **THOU SHALT BE SAVED**

Friend if you got saved accordingly to the scriptures know this also.....

Once you are Born Again You Cannot be UNBORN!

It is impossible for you to ever lose your new birth in Christ Jesus

- **Romans 8:38-39**

For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Salvation is a Gift! It is not something that you earned, It was God's amazing expression of Love that he offers to everyone who wants to accept it.

- **John 3:16**

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

- **Ephesians 2:8-9**

For by grace are ye save through faith; and not that of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast

Baptism

What is the Meaning of Baptism?

Now that I am Saved, Where Do I Start?

Baptism illustrates your new life as a Christian.

It is the first act of obedience in service to the Lord and his examples

Mark 1:9-11, & Romans 6:4, Mark 1:9

Baptism illustrates Christ's death, burial, and resurrection.

1 Corinthians 15:3-4 & Colossians 2:12

Baptism does not make you a Christian, only your faith in Christ does that.

Baptism is like a wedding ring – the outward proclamation of the commitment you have made in your heart towards your relationship with Christ Jesus. **Romans 10:9 & Ephesians 2:8-9**

Who Should be Baptized?

A Believer is someone who has accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Savior according to the Scriptures –

Romans 10:9

When a believer accepts the Lord Jesus Christ as their Savior, the scriptures says that he/she at that moment is ‘Born Again’ –

John 3: 3 & 7 & 1 Peter 1:23

New Testament believers follow the example of the Lord Jesus Christ and the first Gentile in the Bible to be Baptized as told in the story of the Ethiopian eunuch who first ‘believed’ the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ and then after was baptized.

Acts 8:26-39

Why Be Baptized by Immersion?

Because Jesus was baptized that way.

Matthew 3:16

Every baptism in the Bible was by immersion.

Acts 8:38-39

The word “baptize” means “to dip underwater” or “to submerge.” It best symbolizes a burial and resurrection.

Romans 6:1-11

Should small children and infants be baptized?

You might be wondering why we don’t baptize children at their parent’s request. In the Bible we find parents bringing children to Jesus. He held them and prayed for them, and He told us to welcome them, but He did not baptize them nor tell anyone else to. The New Testament shows no examples of baptism when the candidate did not request it. All instances of baptism followed an individual’s decision to trust Christ alone for his or her salvation (**Acts 10:47-48**). At Grace & Truth we wait until a child is old enough to believe and understand the true meaning of baptism. Once a child has made the decision to trust Christ, we will gladly baptize them.

Why Go To Church?

Church is not something you go to, it's a Family that you belong to.

God has established three major institutions on this planet. The Family, The Civil Government and THE LOCAL CHURCH. It is the local church which has been commissioned by God to carry out His purposes in reaching the lost and perfecting the saved. Therefore, God's plan for Christians will always be fulfilled best when connected with the local church.

At Grace and Truth Church our Motto is 'Where the People Are the Church'

The scriptures teach us the importance of living a life that represents all the good qualities that the Church should fulfill.

1 Corinthians 6:19

The local church is a body of men and women who have been saved and called by God to serve in a specific area. The Church is the body of Christ – Saved People from every nation.

1 Corinthians 12:27, Matthew 28:19

The Function of the Local church

1. Teach the Word of God
2. Fellowship with Other Believers
3. Prayer
4. Observance of Bible Ordinances (Baptism & The Lords Supper)
5. Testifying God's Grace & Power
6. Mutual Assistance and Ministry
7. Sharing the Gospel throughout our Communities
8. Glorifying and Praising God

Ephesians 1:22, 2:19-22; Hebrews 12:23; John 17:11, 20-23

Why do Churches require Tithes and offering:

1. Biblical giving begins with your life. God commands us to present our body as a living sacrifice, not just our wallet

1 Corinthians 6:19-20, Romans 12:1

2. Giving shows that God is your priority
Exodus 22:29-30, 13:12-13, 34:19-2,26

3. Giving shows your dependence upon God to bless all your substance not just what you give to Him. Simply giving God our leftovers does not show our trust in Him.

Proverbs 3:9-10

4. The Tithe is expected to be brought to the storehouse (The Church) so that through that structure, he accomplishes his mission in the world.

Malachi 3:8-10, 1 Corinthians 16:1-2

5. **Church leaders and other areas of work and ministry** determined by the leadership are supported by your biblical giving.

1 Corinthians 9:11,13-14, Galatians 6:6, 1 Timothy 5:17-18, Philippians 4:15-16, 1 Corinthians 16:1-2, Acts 6:1, 1 Timothy 5:16,9-10.

6. **The Tithe** – One-Tenth of a person's income 10%. Abraham paid tithes to Melchizedec. The Bible example through Abraham shows that the Tithe was to be taken off the top (First Fruits). Even though it was a small amount it was given first to show that God was the priority.

7. **How can I be sure that my Tithes and Offerings are being used as God would have it?**
Pastors and the Financial Director are accountable to our people for financial decisions. Financial accounting records are provided in an annual business meeting to all members. Members are also expected to Trust the leaders of the church to handle all financial matters appropriately and honestly.

11 Corinthians 8:20-21

8. How can I give?

Members give via the following resources:

- Church Website - <https://gtckc.org/give/>
 - Credit Card
 - Bank Account
 - CashApp: \$gtckc
- Personal Check
 - Postal Service – 16999 E. 23rd St S., Independence, MO 64057
 - Online Giving - <https://gtckc.org/give/>
- In person – Offering Tray
 - Cash or Check
 - Church Offering Envelope (Available at the Visitor Desk)

Our Baptist Heritage

Why do we keep the name “**Baptist**”?

Baptists, unlike many other Christian groups or movements, do not trace their origins to an individual or event. Through the centuries, several groups or movements became known for their strong stand on Bible doctrines such as salvation by grace through faith alone, the Trinity, the inerrancy of Scripture, the local church, and ordinances of baptism and the Lord’s Table.

These groups of Bible-believers have born many names throughout history. Some have been called by the names of their founders like the Hussites who followed John Huss. Others drew their names from geographic regions like the Lollards and Bogemiles. Sharing common convictions and doctrines, these groups dating back to the first and second centuries passed on their biblical heritage to those who became commonly known as “*Baptists*” during the early seventeenth century in central and northern Europe. “Baptist” is a shortened version of “ana-pedo-baptist” meaning “*against infant baptism*” (“*baptize*” being a transliteration of the Greek work “to immerse” or “to cleanse”). These “Ana Baptists” (or later simply “Baptists”) who refused to accept the baptism of infants, received their name from their enemies. Those who later became known simply as “Baptists” came not only from the “Ana-Baptists” but from numbers of European groups such as the Mennonites, Separatists, and the free churches seen in Europe to this day.

Accordingly, Baptists do not trace their heritage to the Protestant Reformation but to several separatist and free-church movements known for their uncompromising stand for pure Bible doctrine as free as possible from human tradition and ecclesiastical systems. While the various Protestant groups were busy separating from Roman Catholicism, Baptist groups emerged principally from those independent, separatist groups that have existed since the first century and are, therefore, not to be classified as “Protestants.” In fact, the Ana-Baptists and later, the Baptists, were fiercely persecuted by Protestants and Catholics alike.

In the English-speaking world, Baptists are commonly thought to stem from John Smyth, a former Anglican clergyman, and Thomas Helwys, an English Separatist. In the early 1600’s, these men led a small group of believers from England to Amsterdam, Holland to escape persecution and find refuge amidst the tolerant Dutch. In Holland, Smyth became convinced of the baptism by immersion for all true believers and led his entire congregation to be baptized, thus founding the first Baptist church in Holland. Though Smyth and Helwys separated, Helwys eventually brought the Baptist beliefs to England. It is from England, of course, that Baptists in America receive their heritage.

In America, Roger Williams was a key leader in the early years. Expelled from Massachusetts because of his firm belief in the separation of church and state, Williams founded what is now the State of Rhode Island. Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island was begun as the first Baptist institution of higher learning in America. Facing persecution in New England, Baptists eventually migrated to the middle and southern colonies. Virginia and the Carolinas became increasingly important centers for Baptists. In the early years, even in these more tolerant areas, Baptists were routinely persecuted and jailed from preaching Bible-based sermons in place of the traditions held by the Church of England or the Roman Catholic Church. Famed patriot Patrick Henry voluntarily represented three Baptist pastors hauled into a Virginia court for disturbing the peace. The indictment reads, “...for preaching the Gospel of the Son of God.”

Baptist Distinctives

Until the late 19th Century, Baptist doctrines remained very similar among Baptists in America. Though several splinter groups pulled apart from the mainstream, most Baptists have held to the following:

- The inspiration, inerrancy, and preservation of the scriptures.
- The individual salvation by grace through faith plus nothing.
- A regenerated church membership.
- Baptism by immersion for believers only.
- The priesthood of the believer: all believers have equal access to God through the finished work of the Lord Jesus Christ.
- The eternal security of the believer.
- The autonomy of the local New Testament Church.
- The separation of church and state.
- World evangelization.

More Information on our Baptist Heritage

Baptists have a strong heritage of keeping the faith. You can read more about this in the following books:

- *Why Am I a Baptist*, by Clarence Larkin
- *An Understandable History of the Bible*, by Sam Gipp
- *Foxe’s Book of Martyrs*, by Zondervan Publishing
- *Trail of Blood*, by B.H. Carrol
- *The Anabaptist Story, (Third Edition)* by William R. Estep

GRACE GROUPS

FIND FREEDOM

Small Groups are designed to strengthen relationships between people and God. We believe God created us to live in community with others so that we might live the full life God intended for us.

It's not always easy to find meaningful friendships that help us grow into better people. That's why Grace Groups exist – to make space for you to access healthy, life-changing friendships.

We offer different types of groups to help meet your spiritual and social needs. Some groups are more study based while other groups are more about serving and connecting with others.

<p><u>W.O.V. – Women of Virtue</u></p> <p>This Study Group is open to Women of all ages as we study the eight Spiritual Body Parts that develop a Virtuous Woman as outlined in Titus 2:3-5, through bible studies, fellowship, mentoring and conferences.</p> <p>Connect with us every 1st & 3rd Sunday on Zoom @ 6:30 pm</p> <p>For more information about this Women's Grace Group – Contact Dawn.Stewart@gtckc.org</p>	<p><u>Iron Sharpening Iron – Grace Men</u></p> <p>This Study Group is open to Men of all ages. Connect with us every Saturday morning @ 8:00 on Zoom</p> <p>For information about this Men's Grace Groups– Contact Pastor.Ray@gtckc.org</p>
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GRACE GROUPS – Cont.

<p><u>Dealing with the 'Issues of Life'</u></p> <p>Make new friends as we explore biblical solutions to the many issues that occur in a woman's life such as grief, loneliness, caregivers, addiction, divorce, parenting, anger, and many more.</p> <p>This Grace Group meets every 2nd Friday each Month @ 10:00 AM (In Person) at the Church</p> <p>For more information about this Grace Group – Contact Dawn.Stewart@gtckc.org</p>	<p><u>52 Weeks of Pursuit – Women's Grace Group</u></p> <p>This Women's Grace Group provides you with the opportunity to increase your knowledge and spiritual understanding of the Words of God.</p> <p>Each participant in this study group is committed to reading through the Bible in (1) year, using the 52 Weeks of Pursuit Book, by Mark Trotter as our study guide.</p> <p>This Grace Group meets every 1st Saturday each Month @ 8:30 AM (In Person) at the Church.</p> <p>For more information about this Grace Group – Contact Dawn.Stewart@gtckc.org</p>
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Grace Groups are our source of pastoral care, spiritual growth, personal freedom, Friendship and accountability. Find the connections you've been longing for by joining a group today! Pastor.Ray@gtckc.org

SERVE TEAMS

Grace & Truth Baptist Church would not be possible without the incredible volunteers that participate on our Serve Teams every week.

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Whether you have the gift of playing an instrument, hospitality, administration, photography, planning events, or working with children, there is sure to be a team that fits you!

Youth Ministry
Usher/Greeter
Production/Media
Worship
Food Pantry
Jackson County Detention Center (Jail)
Building Maintenance/Facilities
Landscaping
Missions

Welcome to the Grace and Truth Church Family!