

October 13th, 2020



GBC Family,

I'm excited to announce that on September 26th, 2020, the GBC Board adopted a 5-year vision for the church (Years 2021-2025). This process was started over a year ago at the last GBC board retreat in 2019. During this process we formed a Vision Committee and I'd like to thank those members for their insights and assistance during the process of finalizing a vision for the church. The members of the Vision Committee include:

- Jack & Jan Hansen, Maurice & Ruth Hodges, Bob & Pam Cody, Dave & Pam Rupers, Debbie Garrett, Aileen Richmond and Jen Taylor.
- I'd also like to thank Ryan Dicken and Kevin and Krista Fontenot for giving feedback and sharing their thoughts about a vision for the church. A special thanks to Ken Kemper, President of Grace Christian University, for sharing his insights and getting us headed in the right direction at the beginning of this process.

When we started preparing a church vision, the GBC Board agreed to support the process and make it a priority of the church moving forward. The Board is committed to praying for the vision, brainstorming ways to fulfill the vision, and keeping the congregation informed about the status of the vision throughout the entirety of the five-year vision period. The Board will discuss the vision at every monthly GBC Board meeting.

The vision is not simply a building project. While we have several building projects included in this vision, we have attempted to "build" in all three areas of our mission statement:

- Building our people spiritually in their walk with the Lord, building fellowship amongst our congregation, and building connections and outreach opportunities to our community

This is a church vision. We need all of you to be a part of it. Pray about how you might be a part of this process over the next five years. Please consider giving financially to the vision projects. Use your spiritual gifts and talents to help fulfill this vision.

In 2021 we have some exciting things planned. A couple of those items include:

- Installing an outdoor lighted cross on the gym wall or some other agreed upon location.
- Updating our primary church sign out by the road.
- Completing an information center in the foyer.

- Identifying specific areas where the Board wants to intentionally teach and encourage growth amongst the congregation (i.e. prayer, stewardship, family & marriage development, etc).

If you would like to see the entire 5-year vision and how we've prioritized the vision projects, it will be posted on our church website (www.gbcpo.org), and a paper copy will also be available by the Vision Board out in the foyer.

We are hoping to raise \$15,000 in 2021 to help complete the 2021 projects. Projects will only be completed when the funds are raised. Excess funds will go towards projects identified for 2022 and beyond.

If you would like to make a contribution to the vision projects, please designate "Vision Projects" on your check or giving envelope. We ask that any of these donations be made in addition to your regular giving that supports our missionary commitments and normal operating expenses.

This is a big step of faith for our congregation. 2020 has been challenging in many ways but God is always faithful! Thank you for being a part of the family of believers here at Grace Bible Church. I'm excited to see the Lord at work in our lives and in our community during these next five years!

Sincerely,

Brian Taylor

Brian Taylor, GBC Board Chairman

Building People



Grace 101

A fun and interactive introduction to GBC for those new to the church. The goal is to give a basic overview of the church, answer questions, and get to know people better. Food or light refreshments are encouraged, and a handout will be created that details GBC leadership, ministry contacts and an explanation of the GBC ministries. New attenders will be encouraged to consider joining a Home Fellowship.

Foundational Truths

A class and handout teaching what it means to be saved and to live out the Christian life after salvation. The class and handout will also cover foundational truths about God and His Word to ensure all GBC attenders and those in ministry have a sure foundation to build their faith upon. Handout can be used in a class or discipleship format as needed.

Grace Membership

A deeper dive into being part of the GBC family. We will explain why we don't require but encourage membership. An overview of the doctrinal statement will take place and prospective members will share their testimonies. A discussion about gifts & talents will also occur and prospective members will be encouraged to pray about using their gifts in ministry at GBC. A handout will be created to allow greater flexibility for prospective members to cover the material at home or in a class at the church. The handout will help pastors and teachers of a Grace membership class consistently cover the desired topics. Anyone completing the handout at home must meet with a pastor or teacher for review and follow-up discussion.

Grace Ministry Handbook

A ministry handbook will be created to ensure those serving in ministry at GBC understand the basic expectations of the church. Additional expectations and guidance for teachers and ministry leadership will also be provided to ensure consistent teaching of foundational truths and GBC doctrine. When doctrinal differences are identified a discussion and decision will be made by the GBC Board about the prospective teacher / ministry leader.

Grace Ministry Planning & Leadership Training

Once a year, GBC leadership will hold a planning and training meeting. The meeting will include an overview of dates and times for larger church and ministry events to help minimize ministry schedule conflicts. Leadership will also go over expectations outlined in the [ministry handbook](#). Ministry leaders will be responsible for covering these same expectations with the leaders/workers in their respective ministries. Ministry leader will also be encouraged to seek out and train new leaders for their ministries.

Intentional Grace

GBC leadership will identify specific areas where they want to intentionally teach and encourage growth amongst the congregation (i.e. prayer, family & marriage development, spiritual gifts, etc.). Leadership will evaluate these areas every couple of years to update and revise as necessary.

Building Fellowship



Fun Fellowship with Home Fellowships!!

Home Fellowships (HFs) are a vital ministry of Grace Bible Church that help new and long-time members grow in their spiritual walk and provides an opportunity for attendees to deepen their fellowship with each other in the comfort of someone's home. At GBC we will emphasize the importance of home fellowships.

- We desire to grow from 5 to as many as 10 healthy HFs for people to join in the next 5-10 years.
- We desire HFs to encourage fellowship! Once a quarter a HF group will organize a fun fellowship activity for all church attendees that emphasizes fun and spiritual growth. Activities should be characterized more for their fun simplicity and not intended to be a burdensome event for the group to organize (i.e. movie night, board game night, dessert contest, etc.)

Fellowship Beyond the Foyer

To encourage opportunities for meaningful fellowship inside & outside of the current church foyer & sanctuary we will:

- Repurpose the library room:
 - Transform it into a coffee house style room with comfortable seating and tables
 - Widen the doorway to make it more accessible to people
 - Add a wall-mounted flat-screen tv for multi-purpose use:
 - Tool for ministry meetings
 - Tool for Sunday school classes
 - Tool to project the Sunday service for mothers with crying infants or anyone else needing to leave the sanctuary



- Expand the Foyer (in phases):
 - Remove the Japanese maple tree
 - Expand pavement and use temporary furniture to encourage outdoor fellowship
 - Finish planning additional phases that will include covering the area so it can be used year-round

Annual Church Picnic / Fun Family Event

- Make the church picnic a priority each year
 - Hold on church grounds
 - Picture opportunity for families
 - Use event to build families / provide materials for family spiritual growth

Movie Nights

- Hold more movie nights throughout the year
- Movies should cover a variety of topics that “build” kids and “build” adults

Research Land Development Opportunities

- The church has a lot of additional land that has potential for future ministry use. We intend to research these opportunities during the next 5 years to see what might be possible & how much it might cost to do the development (space behind the cemetery, space between the parsonage & cemetery, and acreage adjacent to the park & ride section of the parking lot).

Building Bridges to our Community



We're Here!

We want our community to know that Grace Bible Church exists and is a vital part of the community. We will take the following steps to improve our visibility and outreach to the community. The ultimate goal of all this is to share the love of Christ and the truth of God's Word with them that some might be saved.

Building Projects to Improve our Visibility from the Road

Hundreds to Thousands of people drive by GBC every day. We want them to see the church and to know it's an open and inviting place that teaches the truths of Christ:

- Main Sign by the Road – The church sign should stand out & be noticeable to drivers. We want to maximize the size of the sign according to County guidelines and always ensure it is well lighted.



- Lighted Cross – We want to be clear about what we stand for and be a beacon of light even at night.
- Driveway Lighting/Visibility Improvements – Right now the entrance to the church can be difficult to see, especially at night in the winter. We want to explore all options (lighting, better reflectors, etc.) for making our driveway entrance safe, easily visible and inviting.
- Signage on Gym Building – We want to replace the old "Grace Bible Church" signage on the gym with an updated style of font.

Community Service Projects

Throughout each year, various members at GBC promote and lead different outreach efforts to our community and world. Moving forward we will take the following steps:

- Community Service Sunday – At least once a year we will plan a community service Sunday. The church will be closed and signs posted to show members and any visitors that we’re actively serving the community that Sunday. A report on the community service projects should be made the following Sunday.
- Community Service Coordinator – GBC board will actively pray for and encourage a member of the congregation to take on this volunteer position. The coordinator, with the help of the GBC Board, will help organize all outreach efforts and any community service Sundays during the year.

Young Family Ministries

The church must always reproduce itself and our faith must be passed from one generation to the next. With that in mind, GBC will always support and encourage ministries that reach out to young families and help them grow in their faith.

- AWANA / Trek & Journey
- Bright Beginnings Preschool
- Training / Videos on parenting, finances, and marriage

Each year the GBC Board will meet with these ministries and brainstorm ways to further engage our young families in the community and at GBC.

Intentional Outreach to our Neighbors

We believe GBC has been specifically placed by God at 7070 Bethel Burley Road for a reason. We will identify all our neighbors within an agreed upon radius (i.e. 5 miles) of the church. Over a 4-year period, we will contact all these neighbors via phone call, e-mail, postcard or letter inviting them to the church, telling them about our ministries and asking them about how we might pray for them or meet a need of theirs.

Outreach to all Church Attendees

Every Sunday we want to clearly express our desire to meet and connect with people. This is best achieved by members greeting each other and newcomers in the foyer and sanctuary. However, we also have people attending online and other people visiting the church that may have unfortunately not been greeted. To address these situations, we will:

- Develop a slide for the online church service that greets viewers and gives them direction for getting additional information about the church or contacting staff with questions or prayer requests.
- Develop an “Information Center” in the foyer for new attendees (doctrinal statement, calendar, ministries, membership, etc.).
- Develop a bulletin insert and/or overhead slide in the sanctuary that greets people and gives them direction for getting additional information about the church or contacting staff with questions or prayer requests.

Other Community Outreach Ideas to Pray About

Additional considerations for the future:

- Community garden, Volunteer at public schools, homeless ministry, Navy outreach, playing music at community parks/places

Building People	Building Fellowship	Building Bridges to Community
Intentional Grace (2021) Grace 101 (2022) Grace Ministry Handbook (2023) Annual Ministry Planning & Training (2023) Grace Membership (2024) Foundational Truths (2025)	Building Projects	Building Projects
	Foyer Expansion (Phase 1 - 2022) Repurpose the Library Room (2024) Research Land Development Opportunities (Ongoing Project)	Street Sign Update (2021) Outdoor Lighted Cross (2021) Foyer Information Center (2021) Driveway Lighting (2023) Exterior Signage on Church Building (2025)
	Home Fellowship "Fun" Events (2021) Movie Nights (2022) Annual Church Picnic / Family Event (2024)	Community Service Coord. (2021) Outreach to all church attendees (2021) Annual Community Service Project (2022) Neighbor Outreach (2023) Young Family Outreach (2024)

2020 (Planning & Adoption)

1. Adopt the Vision and communicate it to the congregation.
2. Establish a Vision Board (in foyer) that communicates the status of projects & goals.
3. Establish a Vision Projects account on the balance sheet for donations.
4. Discuss the Vision at every monthly GBC Board Meeting.

2021 (YEAR 1)

1. Complete the Main Sign & Lighted Cross Projects
2. Complete steps for Outreach to All Church Attendees (includes foyer Information Center)
3. Pray for & communicate our desire for a Community Service Coordinator
4. Intentional Grace -- The Board adopt a list of "priorities" and develop ways to teach & instruct in some or all of those areas.
5. If we're past COVID-19, Home Fellowships begin hosting a few "fun fellowship" events at the church.
6. Begin researching church property areas that might be developed for future ministry.

2022 (YEAR 2)

1. Complete Phase 1 of the foyer expansion.
2. Develop a Grace 101 new attendees handout.
3. Begin work on the Grace Ministry Handbook.
4. Hold our first church-wide annual Community Service Project.
5. Plan on "movie nights" at the church and advertise them to the congregation.

2023 (YEAR 3)

1. Complete improvements to entrance & driveway lighting.
2. Establish who our "Neighbors" are & begin intentional outreach to an agreed upon percentage (20%) each year.
3. Complete work on the Grace Ministry Handbook.
4. Hold our first GBC ministry planning & training event.

2024 (Year 4)

1. Complete enhancements to Grace Membership process.
2. Complete the Library Room makeover.
3. Begin holding "Young Family" outreach/training events at the church.
4. Begin holding Annual Church-wide PicNic & Family Event

2025 (Year 5)

1. Complete our Foundational Truths curriculum and begin teaching it & making it available to the congregation.
2. Complete exterior GBC signage on the building.
3. Begin working on & complete the next GBC 5-Year Vision thru 2030.