



SEPTEMBER						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5 1	6	7 ●	8	9	10
11 2	12	13 ●	14 ● ●	15	16	17 3
18 4	19	20 ●	21 ● ●	22	23 5	24
25 6	26	27 ●	28 ● ●	29	30	1

- 1** - Labor Day
- - The Gathering
- - Grief Share
- - Divorce Care
- 2** - Outdoor Baptism
- 3** - gsWomen's The Well
- 4** - Sign Up Sunday
- 5** - gsMen's Man Camp
- 6** - Sign Up Sunday

OCTOBER						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 1	3	4 ●	5 ● ●	6	7	8 2
9	10	11 ●	12 ● ●	13	14	15 3
16 4	17	18 ●	19 ● ●	20	21 5	22
23 6	24	25 ●	26 ● ●	27	28	29
30	31					

- 1** - CORE Team Launch (Training and Lunch)
- - The Gathering
- - Grief Share
- - Divorce Care
- 2** - Groups Launch
- 3** - Middle School Camp Out
- 4** - Community Table Starts
- 5** - gsWomen's The Well
- 6** - Growth Lab: The Vineyard

For details about these opportunities head to gracespringchurch.org/events

BOOKS

Secrets of the Secret Place
Bob Sorge

Beautiful People Don't Just Happen
Scott Sauls

The Well Watered Woman
Gretchen Saffles

Fervent
Priscilla Shirer



PODCASTS

GraceLaced
with Ruth Chou Simmons

First15 Devotional

Daily Grace
by The Daily Grace Co

SPIRITED FORMATION

a podcast by gracespring



Have you checked out our podcast?

Listen now at gracespringchurch.org/spirited-formation or anywhere you listen to podcasts.

prayer for vision

Father, we confess that our vision is often clouded by our own perspectives and desires. It's hard to ask you for "fresh vision" because we're afraid you might need to strip away something of ourselves first, and that might be uncomfortable or even painful. But we have devoted ourselves to you. We belong to you and no other. We don't want to serve any other god, and we don't want to spend our lives on fruitless pursuits. We want to be people who represent you well, bringing life and light wherever we go as your imagers. As our rhythms change from summer to fall, may we as a church renew our desire to see the world through your eyes. May our vision increasingly match yours! We want to do better at obeying the timeless commands to listen to you through your Word, to be faithful in prayer, and to share the Good News, but we also want to open our hearts to receive any new assignments from you—"good works you have prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them" (Eph 2:10). Please grant us clarity about how you wish to use us as individuals and as a local body to be faithful stewards in your kingdom until you return.



Some things are timeless, and some things are timely. U of M football has the winningest program of all time (timeless) but it sure matters how they'll play every Saturday this fall (timely)! Your family probably treasures some timeless traditions and values, but you express and experience them uniquely in different seasons (timely).

As a church, we have a timeless purpose stated in the constitution as, "To know, glorify, and worship God our Father, to magnify our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, to experience His grace and power through the Holy Spirit, and to exalt and to live the truth of God's Word." That timeless purpose was there at the beginning and will still be there in a hundred years.

Vision is different. It's timely. Vision offers a new expression of an enduring purpose. It unifies and rallies us around a particular way of being the church and living out the gospel in the right now. It gives fresh language and renewed inspiration. It ignites gospel imagination.

Just before Pastor Bryan left for his sabbatical, he called us to a summer of intentionality. He invited us to engage purposeful rhythms of following Jesus and having the Word dwell richly in our hearts - to be sheep that clearly hear the Good Shepherd's voice and "have the mind of Christ (John 10:3; 1 Cor. 2:16)." Vision is not something that we dream up out of human effort or creativity. Instead, it's birthed out of that posture of intentionality in hearing our Savior's voice.

So now, as we move out of summer and into the fall season, we will be going on a journey into fresh vision. Into a new and timely expression of our timeless calling. In Ezekiel 47, there's this strikingly beautiful imagery of a river flowing out from the Temple and bringing refreshment and flourishing to dry and arid places. We're praying that God will use gracespring to be a church out of which living water flows into broken and thirsty lives and places. Are you ready? Let's be the church...together!

Pastor Jim

GET INVOLVED

Check out these new opportunities we have for you to get connected at gracespring this fall!

Life Group Finder

Our new Life Group Finder launches on September 18th. It will be a spot online for you to browse our current and newly launching groups, sign up for more information, and see where you might belong. The new groups that we are launching will meet for 8-10 weeks and cover wide varieties of topics and meet all throughout the greater Kalamazoo area.

CORE Team Assessment

Also on September 18th, we are launching our CORE Team Assessment. Our CORE Team Assessment is a new tool that we are launching that will help people find their ministry fit at gracespring. It's a short assessment that will take into account your spiritual gifts and provide immediate opportunities for you to plug into different serving opportunities throughout the ministries of gracespring. We hope you'll take it on September 18th and find your ministry fit!

CORE Team Training

On October 2nd, we will be hosting our CORE Team Launch! If I were you, I might be asking, "What is the CORE Team?" Thanks for asking! Starting this fall, every person who serves in any ministry at gracespring will now be called The gracespring CORE Team. You are the people who get things done and help people take a step closer to Jesus! This launch is an open invitation to everyone who serves anywhere at gracespring to have a nice meal and spend some time being appreciated and trained as we look at what it means to be servants of Jesus, servants at gracespring, and servants within our individual ministries. If you serve anywhere OR desire to serve at gracespring, we want you there! It's going to be incredible!

UPCOMING EVENTS



Growth Labs The Vineyard

On October 23 we will be heading to a vineyard and sitting under the teaching of a vinedresser. This will be a time to dig into God's Word and learn about the practical and spiritual applications discussed in John 15. More info to come!



YOUTH FOR CHRIST

volunteer opportunities

Kalamazoo Youth for Christ is looking for volunteers who have a passion to see young people come to know and follow Christ. Here are just a couple of the ways you can get involved.

KITCHEN VOLUNTEER: The main focus is preparing, serving, and cleaning up after dinner.

Time commitment is 3-6 hours per week.

MINISTRY LEADER: The main focus is developing authentic Christ sharing relationships with lost teens by spending time in the rec center, having fun and keeping the environment safe. There is the additional option of overseeing a small group of 5 teens with whom you strategically build relationships and do outside activities.

Time commitment is 4-12 hours per week.



To learn more about these and other opportunities, visit kalamazooyfc.org/volunteer

THE COMMUNITY TABLE

It is the desire of this church to be a bridge for our community to take a step closer to Jesus. Right now, we have an opportunity to do just that; take our church into the community and make a difference in the Lord's name. Let's work together to serve our community and meet a huge need by participating in The Community Table!

This year we are setting a goal of 200 holiday bundles of groceries. One bundle will provide roughly four brown paper grocery bags filled with food to a family. We will partner with the Response Care Center to distribute these bundles of groceries throughout our community and schools during the holiday season.

We have such a great opportunity to send the message of LOVE to every home, inviting them to take a step closer to Jesus...with us!

We will be kicking off The Community Table on October 16th!