

Keeping You Current

“Keeping You Current” is a monthly publication of Harris Creek Baptist Church. Its purpose is to keep the church family informed of financial, organizational and informational happenings at the church.

A Monthly Newsletter

Issue 13 - September 2011

New Believer's Class
 October 5, 12, and 19 from 6 to 7 pm, we will be offering a New Believer's Class for kids who have recently become a Christian. To sign your child up, please email our Children's Ministry Associate, Robin Zapotocky (rzapotocky@harriscreek.org).



Children's Choir
 All Kindergarteners through 4th graders are invited to participate in Children's Choir this year. The kids will be working on a Christmas musical that will be performed on Sunday, December 18th. For questions about choir, please contact Molly Armstrong at molly_c_armstrong@yahoo.com.

Youth L8 Nite
 Our first L8 Nite of the year is on Saturday, September 24. This event will be our 3rd annual Dodgeball Tournament. It will be held at The Center at Columbus Avenue Baptist Church from 10 pm – midnight. If you have any questions, email Landon Collins (lcollins@harriscreek.org).



College Meal Night
 The College Ministry will have its first College Meal Night on Sunday, September 11. The college group will meet at the Legacy Café and Art Gallery at 6:30 pm (or immediately after The Palladium service) to hang out and share a meal together. Please email Galan Hughes (ghughes@harriscreek.org) if you have any questions.

Day at the Lake
 Our annual Day at the Lake celebration is on September 18 at Speegleville Park. You won't want to miss this event, so don't forget to mark your calendars! The festivities will begin at noon, so dress casual for church and head over to the lake around noon.



Connections Class
 Our next membership discovery class called "Connections" is on Sunday, September 25, immediately after the worship service. We will provide lunch and childcare for all who are in attendance. Please email Galan Hughes (ghughes@harriscreek.org) to register for lunch and/or childcare.

S U M M E R S E R M O N S E R I E S

By Grace

It has been said that grace is more of a story than a doctrine. This is because grace is only found in the context of relationships, and relationships always have a story behind them. This is why we are taking five weeks to look at the story of salvation and put grace into the context of our everyday lives.

Grace is a word tossed around in Christian circles all of the time. It is a concept central to Christianity, yet is a term not always fully understood by those who use it. Sure, most can give a working definition of the term "grace," but how many truly



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understand how it works itself out into their daily lives?

In the Biblical story, grace shows up in the very beginning and continues to be the foundation for God's relationship with

creation. In order to properly understand what it means to be "saved by grace," we must look at this story and all of the ways grace plays out in the story.

So, we are taking five weeks to look at the stories of Adam and Eve, Abraham, Moses, and David to see how their stories reflect ours. After all, their stories are our stories. To say it another way, "We find ourselves in the context of the larger story of Scripture." It is only by looking at our lives in the context of the larger story God has been writing with creation that we can fully understand the entire story of salvation. Then, and only then, can we fully realize that we truly are saved by grace.

FROM THE LAND, WHETHER GRAIN FROM THE SOIL OR FRUIT FROM THE TREES, BELONGS TO THE LORD; IT IS HOLY TO THE LORD.

TITHES & OFFERINGS

RECAP OF AUGUST 2011

TITHE OF EVERYTHING FROM THE LAND, WHETHER GRAIN FROM THE SOIL OR FRUIT FROM THE TREES, BELONGS TO THE LORD.

What an exciting time to be a part of Harris Creek! It's hard to believe it is already September! August was another great month in giving at Harris Creek.

We budgeted for \$56,000 in contributions and ended up receiving a little over \$85,000. For the year we are ahead of budgeted giving by \$166,000. We have \$49,000 budgeted for receipts for September but \$73,000 for October, so your faithfulness will be huge over the next few months.

In August, we incurred additional



Your tithes and offerings help fund great ministries and outreach opportunities like these!

expenses associated with starting the new service at The Palladium, mainly equipment and rental fees. This blistering heat has also contributed to our higher-than-average water and electric bills. Along with the new school year came an incredible start to our children's ministry! With this start-up also came the need to update

the classrooms in preparation for the new semester. In total for August, expenses were over budget by roughly \$19,000. The budget for 2011 was for a much smaller church than the one we currently have. It is not surprising, therefore, for our expenses for this year to also be in excess of the budget. For the year, total receipts minus total expenses is right at \$45,000.

As always, thanks for faithfully giving your resources. Don't forget that your time is a resource as well!

Here are a few ways you can put our mission statement into practice by getting involved in serving those around you both inside and outside of Harris Creek.

Mother's Day Out Needs

Much like all of the areas of our church, Harris Creek's Mother's Day Out program has experienced a ton of growth in the last year. We have added two additional classrooms this fall and have 70 children enrolled (that's a 34% increase from our spring enrollment for those who were wondering). There are ways you can help and be involved. First, pray that God would continue to use us to introduce Christ to families and introduce Harris Creek to those looking for a church home. Second, if you know of a mom or former teacher who would like a small part time job, please refer them to Carol Underwood (cunderwood@harriscreek.org). Teachers are the key to running a successful Mother's Day Out program. We still need to find one more teacher to make the staff complete, as well as additional teachers as substitutes. Please keep this in mind as you think about the needs of the church.

College Adopt-a-Student

One of the unique things about Harris Creek is that we have college students who want to be connected to the rest of the church. And one of the best ways for college students to get connected with families in the church is through our Adopt-a-Student program. It consists of a family taking in a college student (no you don't have to pay for their classes) and giving them a little stability, a few meals, and most importantly a chance to be around a Christ-centered family. We need more families so please contact our Adopt-a-Student coordinator, Jennifer Miller (miller.waco@gmail.com) if you are interested.

Space Issues

We have averaged around 985 people at our first three services of the semester at Harris Creek. This number includes Labor Day Weekend where a lot of people were out of town. Our sanctuary at Harris Creek can comfortably seat around 525 people. So, if you are at all able to move from the 10:30 am service and attend the 9:00 am or 5:30 pm (at The Palladium) services, this would be a huge way to serve the church.

Day at the Lake

We are needing some volunteers to help setup and run Day at the Lake this year. There are all sorts of jobs and ways to serve for this event. If you are willing and able to help, please contact Margaret Killian (mckillian@hot.rr.com) and let her know.

Palladium Gift Bags

One way you or your Life Group can serve at our 5:30 worship service at The Palladium is by signing up to contribute gift bags that will be distributed to individuals that have already received financial resources from Harris Creek. We are asking that these gift bags include all and are limited to the items on this list:

- 1 bottle of water
- 2 granola bars
- 1 apple and 1 banana
- 1 hand wipe
- 1 pack of chewing gum

Please email Elise Haykin (missions@harriscreek.org) to sign up as an individual or group.

On Friday, September 16, at 6 pm, we have a unique opportunity as a church family to celebrate together. Drew Greenway is releasing his new album called “Glorious,” and is having a night of worship at Harris Creek to celebrate this event. The album consists of the following six songs, most which are songs you’ve sung before:

- Glorious
- For the Beauty of the Earth
- Hear our Praise
- Signs
- I Will Follow You
- Come & Rescue

You will notice on the album artwork the name of Drew’s band is “Drew Greenway & The Congregation.” This was very intentional by Drew, because he feels like the congregation at Harris Creek was instrumental in the writing of these songs. These songs are our songs. On top of that, almost of all of the musicians on the record are a part of the congregation at Harris Creek. On the song titled “Signs,” there are a number of people from the congregation that sing in the background of the chorus. After listening to the album, this was probably the highlight of the whole CD for me. For all of these reasons, I would love for you to come out and support Drew in the release of this album by simply attending the night of worship on September 16.



Those are some of the reasons I’m sure Harris Creekers will love the album, but let me say this is something people outside of our congregation need to hear. The album is an “EP,” or “extended play,” meaning it’s less than ten songs. While I love all six of the songs on the record, there are no less than three songs that I believe should, and possibly will, be sung by congregations across the country. They are as good musically and theologically as anything out there today.

The reason I believe these songs are so incredible is Drew’s talent God has given him. I’ve said this a number of times before, but Drew has a rare combination of musical training, theological training, talent, and a genuine heart for God. This will be evident when you hear the songs, if you haven’t already. So, let me encourage you to, at the very least, come to the night of worship. This event is free and we will celebrate this production of art as a community. Another way you could support Drew and this project would be through buying a copy of the CD for \$8. And, if you *really* want to support Drew, you will tell others about how great this album is. But don’t take my word for it...come hear for yourself.

In Christ,

Brady Herbert
Lead Teaching Pastor

HARRIS CREEK CONTACT INFORMATION

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For more information, make sure you check out these publications in the church slat walls and on our web site:

- The Parent Link—Children’s Ministries
- The Pulse—Youth Ministries
- Creek Connection—Weekly Church-wide Announcements
- The Source—Weekly Prayer Guide of Harris Creek