



GRACE CHAPEL

press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has

for the good of the world

Annual Report

2026

Grace Chapel: A Church on the Move

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“Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us”

Hebrews 12:1



This year in the life of Grace Chapel has not been typical, but it has been incredible.

While there's no doubt things feel a little different while we're in the process of finding our next Senior Pastor, there is also no doubt that we remain **a church on the move**. That is the theme of this year's report, and in the pages ahead, you'll see why as we reflect on our journey.

First, you'll hear from **Victor Gerdes**, chair of the Grace Chapel Board of Elders, on the ways we're harnessing expert advice and congregational feedback to navigate this season, which includes different teams we've formed to help keep our church on the move. Among these teams is the **Interim Senior Pastoral Team**, who will describe their role of spiritual leadership during our senior pastor search.

Then, our **campus pastors** and ministry leaders will highlight life around Grace Chapel and our impact around the world. Finally, we'll take care of business matters and provide a **financial update**, including the benefits of the sale of 3 Militia Drive.

Through it all, we are a church on the move. We're thankful for a year filled with progress, and we can't wait to experience what God has in store on the path ahead.

Letter from Victor on behalf of Board of Elders

Dear Grace Chapel Family,

It is with a profound sense of gratitude and expectancy that the Board of Elders presents this report. This past year has been a unique season of transition—a **full year without a Senior Pastor**—yet it has also been a time of deep-rooted growth and remarkable faithfulness.

Leadership and Preaching

In the absence of a Senior Pastor, we have seen our staff and lay leaders step up in extraordinary ways. To provide further spiritual and theological oversight, we established the **Interim Senior Pastoral Team**, composed of **Tim Ghali, Ruthie Seiders, and Tom VanAntwerp**. The teaching team, along with hearing from **our own Grace Chapel pastors and guest preachers**, has been a true highlight of this interim season, bringing passion, leadership, and a soul-nourishing Word each week from the pulpit.

Senior Pastor Search

The search for our next Senior Pastor is well underway. The congregation was very involved and interested in the selection process for the search committee, nominating more than 150 people to that committee. In the end, seven people were named to the search committee led by myself and Vice Chair **Kurt Drescher**. Partnering with the firm **Vanderbloemen**, the committee has spent hundreds of hours reviewing candidates and has recently moved into the interview phase.

A Renewed Focus on Prayer

Inspired in part by Pastor **Jeanette Yep** and the book *Lead with Prayer*, we have leaned into a **Season of Prayer** that permeated every generation of our church. Our goal is to continue providing prayer prompts and prayer meeting opportunities as we strive to keep prayer central to everything we do.

Reflection and Communication

Last year, we invited **VitalChurch Ministries** to conduct a congregational survey to provide a “mirror” of our current reality. We are actively responding to your feedback through focus groups and strategic committees. A major priority is **improving communications** across all levels. Through listening sessions and plans to streamline our digital reach, we are working to ensure everyone is reached with the information they care about.

Stewardship of Finances and Facilities

We have made great progress as stewards of our resources. The **sale of 3 Militia Drive for \$6.9 million** has provided capital for long-term sustainability. Simultaneously, the **renovation of 2 Militia Drive** was completed on time and on budget, resulting in beautiful new ministry and meeting facilities for our staff and community. Our building committee is addressing a maintenance backlog, and through careful management, we have **retired \$1.5 million in debt** while increasing the annual budget for a sustainable approach to ongoing repairs.

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For more detail on how we'll utilize the proceeds from the sale, see the Financial Update section of this Annual Report.

Seasons of Ministry

Some seasons have closed while new ones have begun. We celebrated and concluded many years of **Celebrate Recovery**, and we now host weekly **AA** and **Al-anon** meetings to serve our community. We were thrilled to introduce a **Foster Care ministry** and see our new **career networking group** exceed all attendance expectations, spawning industry-specific events for job seekers.

With Deepest Thanks

It is impossible to thank everyone, but we want to specifically recognize:

- The **congregation of Grace Chapel** at Lexington, Wilmington, Watertown, Foxboro, and Online for your faithfulness to our mission and your continued generosity.
- Our **Pastoral Leadership**: Dom Bronico, Tim Ghali, Blaire Jenkins, Rachel Keeler, Erin Martin, Stephen Nyakairu, Ruthie Seiders, Tom VanAntwerp, and Jeanette Yep for their tireless care and leadership.
- **Sharon Whitehead**, HR Director, for her invaluable coordination of the search committee.
- **Mark MacDonald**, Executive Pastor, for his wisdom, steady hand, and love for this staff and church.
- Our two departing elders, **Sandy Shen** and **Rob Stutzman**. Sandy served as Vice Chair, and Rob served as Secretary. These two are uniquely special to me, as they are the only remaining members from my previous board tenure that ended in 2020.

We have much to celebrate and much to look forward to. I conclude with the verse inscribed inside my wedding ring, which serves as our constant reminder:

*“Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit,”
says the Lord Almighty.” — Zechariah 4:6*

On behalf of Grace Chapel’s Board of Elders,

Humbly serving with you,



Victor Gerdes

Chair, Grace Chapel Board of Elders

LEX
WILL
WAT
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ONLINE

Interim Senior Pastoral Team Letter

Dear Church,

The Lord has truly met us throughout a year filled with surprises, transitions, unexpected joys, and countless moments of grace. Once again, God faithfully provided all that we needed, and among the many answers to prayer was the steadfast faithfulness of our congregation.

Alongside the commitment of our church family, and during this season without a Senior Pastor, an Interim Senior Pastoral Team was formed in January, consisting of Pastors Ruthie Seiders, Tom VanAntwerp, and Tim Ghali, serving alongside our Executive Pastor, Mark MacDonald, to help guide and care for the church during this interim season.

As a team of three we wanted to model partnership in this time of transition. Our hope was to provide spiritual leadership by continually calling our church to our ministry year theme, “Centering on Jesus”; to be present and accessible to the needs and concerns of the congregation; to support and serve alongside the Board of Elders, keeping our mission and vision ever before us while not getting bogged down in the weeds of serving a church of our size; and to continue offering encouragement, guidance, and leadership to our incredible staff team. While there were certainly challenges along the way, this season has been deeply fulfilling for each of us. It has drawn us closer together, strengthened our unity, and reminded us that serving the Lord carries with it an unexpected joy. Along the way, we even found moments to laugh, celebrate, and genuinely enjoy the journey together.

It continues to be an honor and our joy to serve Grace Chapel and beyond. We seek your prayers and welcome your communication.

In the love of Jesus.

Tim, Tom, and Ruthie

Campus Updates

LEXINGTON



Lexington Update

Throughout this year at the Lexington Campus, our church family has been spiritually on the move—taking action to deepen our faith, reach others, and connect in meaningful ways!

As we jumped back into routines this past fall, over 20 of our young adults were matched with older congregants and invited to intergenerational dinners in their homes. These dinners were arranged and coordinated entirely by the participants—many led to additional meetups and even friendships.

Our SHINE Ministry began holding a weekly devotional time for volunteers, which has become a consistent space for fellowship, encouragement, and practical support to think together about how to best care for the children in SHINE; as well as helping volunteers grow closer together as a faith community.

The Christmas season was a wonderful time for us to celebrate and serve with the hope of Christ. Our campus Giving Tree in the lobby—to benefit local kids in foster care—was emptied of tags almost immediately, reflecting a congregation eager to bless those in need. Those gifts were later carefully wrapped and delivered by volunteers from our women’s Bible study, who also purchased and wrapped gifts for a refugee family from Afghanistan and for residents of New Life Home for Women and Children.

One of the sweetest moments of our Christmas celebrations this year came during our Christmas Eve rehearsals, watching a returning orchestra alumnus—a young man who had grown up at Grace, gone off to college, and returned to play Christmas Eve—help a brand-new fifth-grade orchestra member tune her violin.

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Lexington Campus Update (cont.)

Our students have grown in their faith throughout the year—a special moment from our Winter Retreat comes to mind. On Saturday night of the high school retreat, nearly 30 of the teenagers asked for additional time to sing worship songs. They carried on with no mics, no cool lights, and no printed or projected lyrics. The time of worship only ended at midnight, when the staff had to say that it was bedtime!

In addition to our adults, students, and children's communities, a number of initiatives and ministries this past year speak to vibrant life of our Lexington campus.

A culture of invitation is really starting to grow in Lexington! So many of you participated in our "Who's Your One?" challenges at Christmas and Easter—where we encouraged you to think about a person God may be calling you to invite to these worship services. Your invitations contributed to Grace receiving over 40 Connection Cards this Easter!

And speaking of reaching those outside the walls of Grace, we were privileged this year to have many of our mission partners visit us and speak to us live during Missions Moments in the worship service, including partners from as far away as Moldova and Chad! We were especially blessed to have our partner Judy Heath speak to our women's groups and to the Grace Chapel staff.

Our Campus Prayer life really took off this year, too—we now have prayer gatherings offered by lay leaders three times a week in the Prayer Chapel (Tuesday at 7 am and Thursday 7 am + 7 pm)—so please consider coming sometime and praying with us for our church and our campus!

We've especially appreciated your prayers in a unique time for us at Lexington. In April, we shared that Josiah Kish accepted a position as lead pastor at a church in his hometown in Connecticut. Josiah had served at Grace Chapel since 2023, first as a pastoral resident serving in Wilmington, then for the past year and a half as associate pastor in Lexington. We celebrate with Josiah and his family, and we are thankful for time we got to spend together as God equipped Josiah to answer his next call of ministry.

With new teammates joining us—Dom Bronico shifting into the role of Lexington Campus Associate Pastor and Erin Martin as the new Lexington Campus Contemporary Worship Leader—I am excited to see how God will grow and bless our campus this year!



Rachel Keeler
Lexington Campus Pastor



Campus Updates

WILMINGTON



Wilmington Update

“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.” Acts 2:42

I’ve always loved this picture of the early church. In so many ways these words have become the template for the church to follow. We’re to be a people who devote themselves to the teaching of the apostles, the sharing of meals together, to growing deep in our relationships with one another and to meaningful times of prayer. This has been that kind of year for us at Grace Chapel and at our Wilmington Campus.

In our community this year, **we added 12 new members, had 10 people baptized, and dedicated 7 children.**

The fabric of our community consists of gatherings of small groups. This is where the life of our church really happens! This year, we added a young adult group, we hosted Alpha groups, our women met on Wednesday mornings and Tuesday evenings, and 14 other groups met at homes around our campus or virtually. With our focus this year on deepening our prayer, sabbath keeping, and fasting practices, many groups experienced meaningful times together.

The next generation is also critical to who we are as a church, so we’re investing heavily in the lives of our kids and students. During the Easter season, this was our second year hosting our **Eggstravaganza**, and we had double the number of people who attended last year. The lobby was alive with so many young families coming together for a morning of fun and celebration! Close to a third of those who were there had never been at Grace before and had either been invited by a friend or simply came because they saw it advertised on social media.

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Wilmington Campus Update (cont.)

This was a growing year for our students as well. The high school ministry has increased attendance on Sunday night by 25 percent, we had our first student ministry night of worship run entirely by students, and we have hosted consistent development of volunteer leaders through trainings and empowerment to do contact work.

We are also continuing to broaden our reach and impact beyond the walls of our church. Last August we hosted the Global Leadership Summit, where nearly 100 participants gathered to strengthen their God-given leadership gifts. One participant said, “I was on a walk in my neighborhood when a friend invited me to come to the Summit.” He was not a Christ-follower and had never been to Grace, but he thoroughly enjoyed the summit and will be back with us this year. At the summit, we say, **“Everyone wins when a leader gets better!”**

Our partnership with our local Department of Children and Families has deepened with more people stepping up to serve families who are fostering at our church and a team of people who support the office in a variety of ways. A highlight was this past March as we partnered with other area churches to provide a Social Worker Appreciation Day event at the office. The staff at the office all showed up. “This is our favorite day at the office all year!” one person shared with me.

All this to say, the Wilmington Campus is ... well ... being the church!



Tom VanAntwerp
Wilmington Campus Pastor



DISCOVERING
LIFE WITH GOD
FOR THE GOOD
OF THE WORLD

Campus Updates

WATERTOWN



Watertown Update

Hey friends,

God has uniquely positioned us to live out our mission of discovering life with God for the good of the world by encouraging one another, showing love, and serving our city together.

As Hebrews 10:24–25 reminds us:

“And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together... but encouraging one another.”

We gather not just to attend church, but to grow in faith, care for one another, and be sent out as people who reflect the love of Jesus in our communities. This past year, we’ve seen God move in ways that are both visible and deeply personal.

We witnessed something special this Easter. More people joined us for our Good Friday and Easter gatherings than in previous years, with nearly **350 people** gathering across both services!

Church doesn’t stop at our doors, though, as we’re reminded through our outreach efforts. Our annual Egg Hunt welcomed over **800 kids and families**. There, seeds were planted, conversations began, and relationships were formed.

We also continued growing our partnerships in our community. Through **Spring Serve**, we supported local organizations and came alongside a foster family within our congregation. We also partnered with the Department of Children and Families, engaging in practical ways to serve vulnerable families.

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Watertown Campus Update (cont.)

As we grow our impact in the world around us, we're equipping people within our Watertown campus family to take important steps in different areas of life and faith.

Several individuals participated in a Financial Workshop, growing in wisdom and learning practical tools for stewardship and generosity. One participant shared, "Thank you for sponsoring the financial literacy classes ... it's a blessing to have a church that invests in young people the way you do."

We had **20 couples** join us for our Marriage Workshop, intentionally investing in their relationships. Our student gatherings created space for middle and high schoolers to build friendships and explore faith in authentic ways. At our Women's Breakfast, women discovered their spiritual gifts and how those gifts can be used to care for others in our church.

Each of these moments points to something deeper: we are becoming a community where people are known, supported, and growing in Christ together. This is clear to me as I recall a couple faith stories:

One of my favorite stories came right after Easter. Someone from our community was out on an errand and felt a simple nudge: "Just invite the person next to you." So they did. They said, "Hey, I know this is random, but I'd love to invite you to my church." The person responded, "Oh ... is it this one?" and pulled up our church on Google Maps! Then they said, "I'll add it to my to-do list." It's a reminder that God is already at work in people's lives—we're simply joining Him.

Another story comes from our students. At a recent gathering, one student shared honestly about their faith for the first time in community. What followed was encouragement, prayer, and a deeper sense of belonging. It reflected a culture where young people are discovering that faith is personal, real, and lived out together.

As we look ahead, we are praying and trusting God to lead us to our next Senior Pastor and into another chapter of helping more people discover life with God.

Thank you for being part of what God is doing at the Watertown Campus. Your faithfulness, generosity, and presence are making a real difference in the lives of others.



Stephen Nyakairu
Watertown Campus Pastor



Campus Updates

FOXBORO



Foxboro Update

Greetings from the land down under—under the Pike that is!

It has been my privilege to serve as the Interim Campus Pastor for our Foxboro congregation first during the month of October, then stepping in again since the beginning of February after the Lord called Foxboro Campus Pastor David Morreale into a Lead Pastor role in upstate New York.

Foxboro grew in several ways under David’s leadership that we are trying to continue as we await the next Campus Pastor. We welcomed a new worship leader in Jolonda Lowe, and she has quietly rebuilt our worship volunteer base and brought her love for the Lord into every song she leads.

Meg Nelson, our faithful Campus Administrator, accepted the invitation to become full time by taking on Kidstown Director duties along with her administrative responsibilities. Meg has seen an increase in young families and even introduced a “Tot Spot” in the back of the sanctuary where families with really little ones can worship in our midst.

Blaire Jenkins has faithfully been serving as our Associate Pastor, honing her preaching skills and leading our Connections ministry, while at the same time continuing to love our middle and high school students.

Our Foxboro campus isn’t just about being in the community; we’re also for the community, making meaningful impact within our town. It brings me joy to celebrate the connections we made this past year, starting in **Kids Week, which doubled in size from 2024 to 2025!**

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Foxboro Campus Update (cont.)

We continued outreach at Light Uptown, a Town of Foxboro event in the square, at which Grace Chapel Foxboro has maintained significant presence. At Light Uptown, we sent **45 volunteers**, who helped people create **100 cards** for children and youth impacted by Foster Care! Partnering with the local YMCA, we helped bring warmth to the community, literally, with **700 cups of hot cocoa**. And, we connected with **100 new people** through a raffle and photo booth. All in all, **222 acts of kindness were recorded during the Advent season**.

This past spring, our Eggstravaganza Family Night saw over **30 volunteers welcome over 100 people**, 90 percent of whom were not previously connected with Grace Chapel. The smiles were abundant among kids and families as children tracked down eggs, took home crafts, and enjoyed treats all evening. We had our **largest Good Friday attendance on record** at Foxboro, both services on Easter were comfortably full, and **we recently welcomed 5 new members and had 5 more people baptized** in May.

God is moving at Grace Chapel Foxboro, and I am honored and excited to be a part of it in this season. To God Alone be the Glory!



Ruthie Seiders

Pastor of Central Ministries

Interim Campus Pastor, Foxboro



Campus Updates

ONLINE



KATIE GAUS

DOM BRONICO

@WeAreGrace

Online Campus

This past year has been one of meaningful transition and renewed clarity for Grace Chapel's Online Campus. Our goal remains simple: to create a space where people, wherever they are, can genuinely connect with God and with our church community.

In August, we said goodbye to Pastor Jon Kim as he stepped into a new season of ministry. We are deeply grateful for his leadership and the foundation he built. In this same season, I stepped into the role of Director of Digital Ministry, leading the Digital Ministry team in creation of our regular Online Campus content while expanding on the types of content we create for Online during this transition.

A major highlight this year has been welcoming Katie Gaus as our Online Host and Content Creator. With a background in broadcasting, Katie brings clarity, warmth, and a natural ability to connect. Her presence has made our online services more engaging and accessible, helping people feel seen and invited into what God is doing at Grace. You may see her around our campuses, as she captures stories and perspectives that provide a glimpse into life together at Grace.

This year also marked an important step forward with the launch of our new Digital Ministry studio at the Lexington campus. This investment allows us to create more intentional, high-quality content and positions us for continued growth in how we reach people online.

Among new content is our Grace Out Loud Podcast, which presents honest conversations about faith beyond Sunday mornings. Hosted by Pastor Dom Bronico and Katie, we explore big questions like, 'Who is Jesus?', 'Denominations: Why are there so many?!', and 'How should

— Continues Next Page —

Online Campus Update (cont.)

we approach reading scripture?’ Check out the podcast on our YouTube channel when you get the chance!

We are so thankful for those who call our Online Campus home and engage in our online services, groups, and other content regularly. Our commitment remains to help people in the online space feel known, encouraged, and connected to God and to each other.

Looking ahead, we are building more relational, interactive, and outward-facing online content that meets people where they are and helps them take meaningful steps in their faith.

We are grateful for all God has done this year and expectant for what is ahead. We look forward to developing more ways for people to stay curious, practice and grow their faith, and use our digital spaces to discover life together in community.



Dave McGaha
Director of Digital Ministry

Digital Community is Real Community

7,618

Youtube Subscribers

457

Added This Year

[Youtube.com/GraceChapel](https://www.youtube.com/GraceChapel)

435,672

Total Page Views

[Grace.org](https://www.grace.org)

Sharing the Kingdom Through All Our Platforms

Ministry Highlights

KIDSTOWN



Early Childhood – 5th Grade

Helping Kids Know Jesus

As a church on the move, we're always investing in nurturement of our children. Here are some Kidstown highlights as shared by ministry leaders across our campuses, including a few of our favorite moments as well as some of the ways our kids have learned and grown in the past year.



I love how our Kidstown families in Wilmington are connecting with one another. I see so many families chatting in the lobby after services. Not only are their kids getting to know each other, but the parents are becoming friends, too.

One of my favorite Sundays is the last one of each month. Our kids learn a memory verse each month and recite it (for a prize) on the final Sunday. To hear them learning and remembering scripture is always a highlight for me!



Angela Rogers
Children's Ministry Director,
Wilmington Campus

**Kidstown
Kids Served**

1,357

KIDSTOWN

400

**Kids Week
Attendees**

20

Kids Dedicated

182

Volunteers

31

Bibles Given

**You shall teach them to your children, talking of them
when you sit in your house and when you walk along the
road and when you lie down and when you rise up.**

Deut. 11:19



One of my favorite things this year was watching students engage as volunteers at various Kidstown and Kidsweek events. It was so cool to watch children grow in their faith through the help of those who were in their shoes a few years earlier.

Our kids have grown in their faith this year through consistent Bible teaching paired with hands-on discussion and repetition at home and church. Focusing on helping kids understand the big story of the Bible and who Jesus is has helped many of them grow in confidence, participation, and excitement about their faith.



Brad Fuller
NextGen Director, Watertown



Our volunteers are exceptionally caring, and they use their unique skills to help our kids become curious about God’s story. One highlight is in our preteen group, where longtime volunteer group leader “Mr. Steve” fosters a space where curiosity is embraced. He encourages participants to share honestly, not just share what they think the “right” answers are. This group is discovering through his example what it means to be a life-long learner; where it’s ok to not always have all the answers, but we trust God and know we are loved by God, even when we have doubts and questions.



Meg Nelson
Director of Children’s
Ministry & Campus
Administrator, Foxboro



Ministry Highlights

STUDENTS



Middle & High School

Leading Students in Owning Their Faith

Whether spiritually curious, seeking to deepen their faith, or somewhere in between, our students have experienced life together with God throughout this past year. Hear these highlights from our Student Ministry leaders, as well as some of the ways our students have learned and grown this past year.



As always, our retreats are an incredibly rewarding time for our ministry. Our students have taken to heart the “all are welcome” mentality that we have been working on, and it is a joy to see the most highly active students, as well as the students who have never come to any Students things before, coming together as a whole community to have some fun, grow in their faith, and make friends.

Our January series on the Holy Spirit challenged our students and adults alike to discuss what we believe the work of the Spirit to be while leaving room for mystery and wonder. A salient point for us studying together was that the Gospel includes the Holy Spirit in our lives, and that the Holy Spirit is not some add-on for the mature Christian but rather a reality that we experience from the moment of our salvation.



Akash Ahuja
Director of High School Ministries, Lexington Campus

Students Served **374**

STUDENTS

324

**Fall & Winter
Retreat Attendees**

79

Volunteers

84

**CCLE
Participants**

44

Bibles Given

**Let no one despise you for your youth,
but set the believers an example in speech,
in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity.**

1 Timothy 4:12

““ Students grew in their faith through a series that touched on how messy faith can be and that that’s okay. We have a lot of students who end up measuring the quality of their faith based on how they see others experiencing God, so embracing the messiness of faith and how it’s unique person to person was a freeing series for most of our students.



Blaire Jenkins
Associate Pastor & Student
Ministry Pastor, Foxboro

““ One of my favorite things that happened this year in student ministry is that we had a Night of Worship run entirely by students at our campus! Our students also grew by attending retreats, where they deepened their faiths.



Victor Matos
Director of Student Ministry,
Wilmington

““ One of my favorite things this year has been watching our students genuinely build community across grade levels. Whether through retreats, small groups, or just hanging out before and after youth group, we’ve seen students become more engaged, more welcoming, and more invested in one another’s lives and faith.

Students have connected Scripture to everyday life through consistent small group discussions and teaching centered on spiritual disciplines and following Jesus in real-world situations.



Brad Fuller
NextGen Director, Watertown

DISCIPLESHIP & GROUP LIFE

1,477

People Participating in an Ongoing Life Group

266

Group Leaders

186

Life Groups

Reaching Younger Audiences

Younger audiences at Grace Chapel are essential to the growth and sustainability of our church family. We celebrated a big year with more people making more connections!

Young Adult Retreat

Attendance more than doubled from 2024!

In this special time, young adults grew in community, had fun, and engaged in hard topics with deep discussion.

Intergenerational Dinners

In Lexington, older and younger adults came together for **10 different dinners**, each with **5 to 8 people**, to learn from one another across the generational gap.

Investing in Young Families

We launched **three new young family groups!**

We invest in their growth with StuMin-provided childcare and host homes provided by older members of the congregation.

Sunday worship services are just one aspect of church life. Midweek Life Groups and other small group gatherings create spaces for meaningful conversations about faith and life that are hard to replicate in the church lobby. At Grace Chapel, thousands of people are able to build relationships and grow in their own discipleship journey through group life.

Group Life experienced a meaningful year of steady growth—**53 more Life Groups are meeting this year than last year**, leading to deeper spiritual formation and more personal connections.

We saw encouraging engagement through consistent attendance, the formation of new groups, and the continued faithfulness of our leaders. Our ongoing Life Groups—whether Mixed, Women’s, Men’s, Young Adults, and more—remain a vital space where people are known, cared for, and spiritually formed.

In addition, our Short-Term Groups, which meet for a period of time to discuss specific topics, continued to flourish as accessible on-ramps for many to take a next step into community. We are just as grateful for the Short-Term Groups that met to study Scripture and teachings of Scripture throughout our campuses.

Another celebration is our continued engagement in our Alpha Courses, which continue to meet across our campuses, attracting new attendees as well as reoccurring – all who come with their unique questions, doubts, and curiosities to explore.

We are especially grateful for the leaders who stepped forward in faith and for the many participants who said “yes” to gathering, growing, and sharing life together. We saw hundreds of people connecting in groups focused on practical ways to grow in and apply their faith: in their workplaces through Work and Faith groups, and in Lent groups focused on Fasting, Sabbath, and Prayer. These spaces provided opportunities for spiritual growth, thoughtful conversation, and Christ-centered perspective in the midst of our hurried, over-scheduled lives.

We give thanks for the connection, growth, and support that emerged, and we look forward to continuing to create environments where people can belong, be formed, and be sent out to make a Kingdom impact.



Tim Ghali
Pastor of
Discipleship

BAPTISMS



46 Baptisms

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 28:19

Baptism is an outward expression of an inward decision to follow Christ, and a powerful response to His call on our life. It's really a celebration: a chance to show family, friends, and the local church "Yes! I've decided! I will follow Christ!" We praise God for all those who have taken this step, honoring God through these special baptism moments.



"In late 2024 and for a large part of 2025, aware that life was at a crossroads and one road would not lead to a good outcome, I—somewhat flippantly —sent a message to a neighbor one night, without knowing anything about her faith, saying something along the lines of, 'I'm getting so desperate I'm thinking of reaching out to a church.'" Within 24 hours, she had introduced me to Grace. I discovered a group of people, none of whom I had ever met before but all of whom were immediately ready to listen, to talk, and to help me heal. The "bad days" still come occasionally, but when they do, I place my trust in my faith. For that, I can only thank all of you."

— Colin White



"A year and a half ago, I visited Grace, but it wasn't until I attended a prayer service and met Pastor David Morreale that things began to turn. That Sunday, as my mother was facing a sudden, life-threatening illness, I felt an overwhelming pull to be in this sanctuary. I was falling apart, but Pastor David prayed for my mom, while this community took me into their arms.

When I heard the news that my mom had passed during the service, I knew God had placed me here so I wouldn't have to face the brokenness alone. I know I need God in my life, not just some of the time, but always. He has always been there for me and now I am fully committed to following him."

— Kim Gatto

MEMBERSHIP



**There is one body
and one Spirit,
just as you were
called to one
hope when you
were called.**

Ephesians 4:4

Church Membership as of April 30, 2025	1,790
New Members May 1, 2025 — April 30, 2026	47
Transferred/Dropped	—
Deceased	9
Total Membership as of April 30, 2026	1,828

Becoming a member of Grace Chapel is more than just a public declaration of commitment to the mission and vision of our church. Membership is a deep and meaningful commitment to each other: caring for one another as we all strive to bring God’s love into the neighborhoods and communities we share.

Membership is also practical. Grace Chapel has a long history of congregational governance where members vote to approve key decisions that affect the future of our church. Members approve nominees for church offices and our annual operating budget, as well as strategic decisions like selling our office building and approving our new senior pastor.

New Members

- Patricia Ribeiro Afonso
- Janet Aikens
- Carmen A Alarcon
- Jonathan Andino
- Sarah Elizabeth Bell Austin
- Saideh Bonab
- Isaac Chandrasingh
- Michael Dominick DellaMonaca
- Elizabeth Melissa DeMarco
- Leigh-Ann Margaret Durant
- Raisa Gutu
- Robert Hannisian
- Susan Ibok
- Mark Christopher Ingalls
- Sheri Ingalls Anderson
- Rachael Shobana Joseph
Karunanidhi
- Caroline Kamau
- Michael Karugu
- Marjorie Laughlin Kasch
- Benjamin Shad Kratz
- Juliet Wilson Kratz
- Robert Jake Lankford
- Cathleen Lopez
- Esther Chisari Lorusso
- Stephen Lorusso
- Holly Maserejian
- Craig Ryan McDade
- Sarah Leone McDade
- William McLaughlin
- Barrett Leigh Moorhouse
- Courtney Moorhouse
- Leslie (Lee) Morash Jr
- Kristina Nickerson
- Abiodun Oladimeji
- Oluwaseun Oladimeji
- Alex W Paik
- Patricia E. Rash
- William Christopher Rash
- Christopher Ryerson
- Sarah Anne Satgunam
- Katherine Scott
- David Charles Surabian
- Kelly Jean Surabian
- Denise Dupree Tarquinio
- Sara Wagner
- Tyler Wilson Wagner
- Brianna Simone Wilson

Members Home with the Lord

- **Jennifer Aucoin**
- **Peter Contompasis**
- **Reginald E. Gibson**
- **Laurel Ann Morsch**
- **Pat Nandy**
- **John Oddo**
- **Patty Rash**
- **Jack Richardson**
- **David E. Stephens**

MISSIONS



Partnering with ministries here in greater Boston and around the world.

Local & Global Outreach

Grace Chapel has always had a heart for God’s mission in the world. In fact, when our church was founded, the founding families sent out a missionary before they even called a pastor. During World War II, many returning soldiers came face to face with the brokenness of the world and felt compelled to bring the saving, healing, and restoring hope of Jesus Christ to people everywhere. Our missions ministry today continues to build on the faithful vision and foundation laid by those early founders.

Grace Chapel currently partners with **43 ministries** serving locally in New England and globally across five continents. Together, these partners bring the good news of Jesus across cultures in a variety of ways. Some serve through Bible translation, theological education, evangelism, discipleship, and church planting. Others demonstrate the love of Christ through ministries of mercy including microfinance, community development, and care for vulnerable communities. Our partners walk alongside people experiencing homelessness, addiction, displacement, and material poverty. They serve children, widows, refugees, orphans, foster children, and older adults—offering both practical support and the hope of Christ.

In the fall, during **Global Awareness Week (GAW)**, we were honored to welcome **13 ministry partners** to Grace Chapel. Our theme, “Hope Rising Among the Nations,” was drawn from Malachi 1:11. We were especially encouraged by Noiyy Prommathat of YWAM Thailand, who shared about God’s work among the nations and the growing leadership of younger Christians from the Global South. Missions today is no longer simply “from the West to the rest,” but truly “from everyone to everywhere.” Global Awareness Week provided a glimpse of this beautiful reality within the global church.

This year, Grace Chapel also sent two adult **Cross-Cultural Learning Experience (CCLE)** teams to serve alongside our ministry partners at Potter’s House Association International in Guatemala. Seven of the 16 participants were serving in Guatemala

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Missions Update (cont.)

for the first time. One team helped complete the construction of a three-room home for a local family. Through holistic development programs focused on at-risk children and youth, Potter's House has now served communities in Guatemala for **40 years**, and several Grace Chapel members had the privilege of celebrating this important ministry milestone with them this spring. In both word and deed, Potter's House continues to proclaim its joyful motto:

“¡Cristo vive!” — “Christ is alive!”

Jesus said, “the harvest is plentiful but the workers are few” (Matthew 9:37). Perhaps God is inviting you to take a faith-sized step to join in his mission of bringing the good news of Jesus to the world. Let's pray, talk, learn, and serve together.



Jeanette Yep

Pastor of Global and Regional Outreach

Mission Partners

43
Active Partners*
 (*1 Retired)

24
 Lexington

10
 Wilmington

4
 Watertown

4
 Foxboro

New England

- Alpha New England
- Boston Project Ministries
- Emmanuel Gospel Center
- Fostering Hope
- Gordon Conwell International Student Ministry
- Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary
- Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary - Campus for Urban Ministerial Education (CUME)
- Hagar's Sisters
- New Life Home for Women & Children
- Place of Promise

Multiple Regions

- PEER Servants
- Posture Shift

Africa & Middle East

- Bible Society of Egypt
- Cedar Home for Girls

- CMML, Family Fund, South Sudanese Refugees
- Grace Church, Amman, Jordan
- Impact Relief (formerly World Relief Malawi)
- Jossour Bridges of Hope
- Kasr El Dohara Evangelical Church (KDEC)
- Serving In Mission (SIM) and ISTEEL
- Wycliffe Bible Translators

East & South Asia

- Bengali Christian Ministry
- Bethel Church
- Chiang Mai University & Horizons International
- Good News for India
- Interserve USA/India
- Nepal Bishwabidyalaya Christiya Bidhyarthi Sangati (NBCBS) University Students
- Nepal Ebenezer Theological Seminary (NETS)

- OMF International
- Prison Fellowship Nepal
- Youth for Christ Sri Lanka
- Youth With A Mission (YWAM), Thailand

Eastern Europe (Moldova)

- Invest Credit (PEER Servants partner)
- Jesus Savior Church
- Little Samaritan Mission
- University of Divine Grace (UDG)

Latin America & Caribbean

- Hope for the Children of Haiti
- Life Giving Water International
- Potter's House

Retired Partners

- Mesa Global (formerly United World Mission)

SPECIAL OFFERINGS



\$117,928

Benevolence

\$159,426

Christmas Eve

\$95,000

Global Awareness
Week

\$6,884

Kids Week

\$64,307

CCLC Support*

* This year's CCLC Support totals include 2 trips to serve Potter's House in Guatemala.

Faithful Giving Provides Meaningful Impact

This year's Christmas Eve special offering helped bring tangible hope to communities both near and far, totaling **\$159,426** split between two life-changing organizations.

Half of our offering—**\$79,713**— went to Al Ahli Arab Hospital in Gaza City. We introduced Al Ahli to our church family this past fall during Global Awareness Week (GAW). Founded in 1882, Al Ahli is the only Christian-led hospital in Gaza, and they serve patients regardless of religion, ethnicity, or ability to pay. After more than two years of war, Al Ahli has remained open and continues to receive patients daily, but its infrastructure has been heavily damaged, leaving critical equipment and departments unable to function. Supplies and medicine are badly needed, as is a constant supply of generator fuel. Ahli's staff is offering hope to people who badly need it—but they need their own hope sustained, too. We also raised **\$95,000** for Al Ahli during GAW!

Closer to home, our local ministry partner The Boston Project Ministries is expanding its work in Dorchester through the renovation of a home that will become a Neighborhood Youth Center. The other **\$79,713** of our Christmas Eve offering was designated to establish a matching grant that will help attract additional funding and accelerate completion of this important community project.

Thank you, Grace Chapel, for your faithful generosity!

FINANCIAL UPDATE



FY26 Financial Update

The theme for this report is “a church on the move” and it’s a fitting description. Is there a better way to describe Grace Chapel’s approach to ministry than movement? Even amid a full ministry year without a senior pastor, Grace Chapel’s commitment to vibrant ministry that serves thousands each week and reaches beyond the walls of our church is evident. Movement is part of our ministry DNA.

It’s even more remarkable when you consider the financial realities we’ve faced in the last fiscal year.

FY26: Moving Ahead Through Challenging Times

We started the year with a reduced budget for FY26. After some challenges meeting our budget in FY25 and looking ahead at giving projections for FY26, the Finance Committee proposed a budget that was a 3% reduction from the prior year. There were multiple reasons behind this: we looked at giving trends from the prior three years; Pastor Joshua’s announcement he was leaving left us with some significant uncertainty regarding how much this would impact the church; and we had to account for potential volatility as a new administration’s economic policies went into effect.

While reducing our budget was prudent, conservative budget planning did present some challenges. Multiple significant maintenance and repair projects across all of our campuses were deferred, putting pressure on an already stretched-thin facilities team. On the pastoral side, ministry budgets were held flat in spite of increasing costs for so many of the things we do to serve all of you.

Yet through it all, God provided.

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Financial Update (cont.)

One of the most significant impacts on our financial health as a church was the sale of our central ministry offices building, 3 Militia Drive, for \$6.9M. This provided an immediate impact on our overall financial picture. That impact included things like:

- Renovation of our 2 Militia Drive building to house shared meeting/ ministry spaces, staff offices, and even greatly improved rental spaces.
- We were able to build a sustainable plan for our long list of deferred maintenance projects, including significant things like the 59 Worthen Road building envelope (roof, siding, etc.) and HVAC systems, structural evaluation of our Watertown campus, the roof at our Foxboro campus, and parking and signage issues in Wilmington. This new building fund will provide critical dollars each year to address our growing needs across all our facilities.
- Establishing a Legacy Fund specifically set aside for estate planning and funding future Kingdom initiatives and strategic growth projects.
- Debt payment: we were able to pay off the mortgages on our Lexington and Wilmington campuses, lightening our overall financial burden and freeing up future funds that come in through congregational giving for direct-impact capital improvement expenditures.

Grace Chapel has always valued good organizational stewardship. This means that in the case of proceeds from the sale of a capital item – such as a building – those proceeds are specifically dedicated to cover other capital expenditures, not operating costs. Operating costs are covered by congregational giving.

The giving story of FY26 was similar to prior years: largely flat. It's stating the obvious to note that operating for the full year without a senior

Funds Distribution from 3 Militia Sale

2 Militia Drive Ministry Building Renovations	\$2,074,712
Mortgage Debt Payoff (59 Worthen Rd and Wilmington)	\$1,383,664
Legacy Estate Fund for Longer Term Impact	\$500,000
Capital Building Fund	\$2,896,500
	<hr/>
	\$6,854,876

pastor has an impact on giving. While we've continued to minister effectively during this time of extended transition, we've also had to adjust in ways that present challenges.

Yet there are many highlights to note: we saw 586 households increase their giving to Grace Chapel. Among median-tier givers we saw an increase in total giving: more people, giving more and giving consistently. The positive impact on our ministry operations budget cannot be understated: as our giving contributions grow we can provide in areas like more scholarships for students going on retreat, more support for ministry partners, more outreach events that connect our campuses to the local community.

Special Offerings

This year we gave the most we've ever given to a single organization through a special offering: \$174,713 to the Al Ahli Hospital in Gaza through our Global Awareness Week and Christmas Eve special offerings. We also gave \$79,713 to Boston Project through our Christmas Eve offering. What a beautiful example of the people of Grace Chapel's generosity to the good work being done outside our walls!

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Financial Update (cont.)

Looking Ahead to FY27

Optimistically, we are looking ahead to a growth budget, targeting an increase of total revenue of 1% over the prior year. This growth will come from a number of factors:

- A projected increase in annual contributions of 1% from the congregation
- New estimates for using our buildings in our communities of a 6% increase in rental income.
- Grants for security and safety improvements to our Kidstown spaces in Lexington, Watertown, and Wilmington

We're balancing our growth budget by managing through increases in the costs of doing ministry in today's economy. Inflation impacts us all. We are doing so many of the things necessary to support our many ministries and are prayerfully reliant on all of you and your generous support in giving and serving across all the many needs of Grace Chapel.



Grace Chapel, Inc. Statement of Financial Activities - Multi Year

Fiscal Years 2026-2023 Unrestricted Financials

	Year Ending April 30, 2027	Year Ending April 30, 2026	Year Ending April 30, 2025	Year Ending April 30, 2024	Year Ending April 30, 2023
	FY27 Budget	FY26	FY25	FY24	FY23
Net Income - Operating					
OPERATING REVENUE					
Contributions	8,114,481	8,034,140	8,585,394	8,535,353	8,294,177
Operating Income					
Rental Income	785,000	744,025	678,095	557,458	356,135
Interest Income	105,928	224,009	75,618	101,733	39,535
Ministry Program Income	145,000	140,377	153,151	152,190	120,528
Total Operating Income	1,035,928	1,108,411	906,864	811,381	516,198
Total Operating Revenue	9,150,409	9,142,551	9,490,713	9,346,734	8,294,177
OPERATING EXPENSES					
Missions Partner Support ¹	742,500	732,177	743,548	741,017	767,000
Other Charitable Contributions ²	-	9,240	12,566	60,816	9,159
Total Missions Support	742,500	741,417	756,114	801,833	776,159
Ministry Support & Personnel ³	6,348,788	5,976,123	7,176,660	7,015,924	5,939,266
Facilities ⁴	1,559,339	1,372,851	1,190,846	1,312,494	1,235,178
IT	255,764	255,764	245,223	228,879	299,919
Financial & Legal Expenses ⁵	448,140	539,967	436,058	579,505	583,799
Total Operating Expense	9,354,531	8,886,122	9,804,901	9,938,635	8,834,321
Net Income - Operating	(204,122)	256,429	(314,188)	(591,901)	(540,144)
DEBT					
Principal Payment ⁶	35,746	347,387	336,389	325,174	314,129
Total Debt Payments	35,746	347,387	336,389	325,174	314,129
Other Income ⁷	300,000	167,068	388,232	644,376	-
Cash Reserves Support	-	-	-	167,256	300,000
Total Net Results	60,132	76,110	(262,345)	(105,443)	(554,273)

Disclaimer: Unaudited Fiscal Years subject to change. Unaudited Fiscal Years: FY26

¹ FY26 Mission Partners experienced losses of Partners

² Non Budgeted gifts/support to partners unrelated to CCLEs and other planned support

³ FY27 Assumes current Open Positions, filled

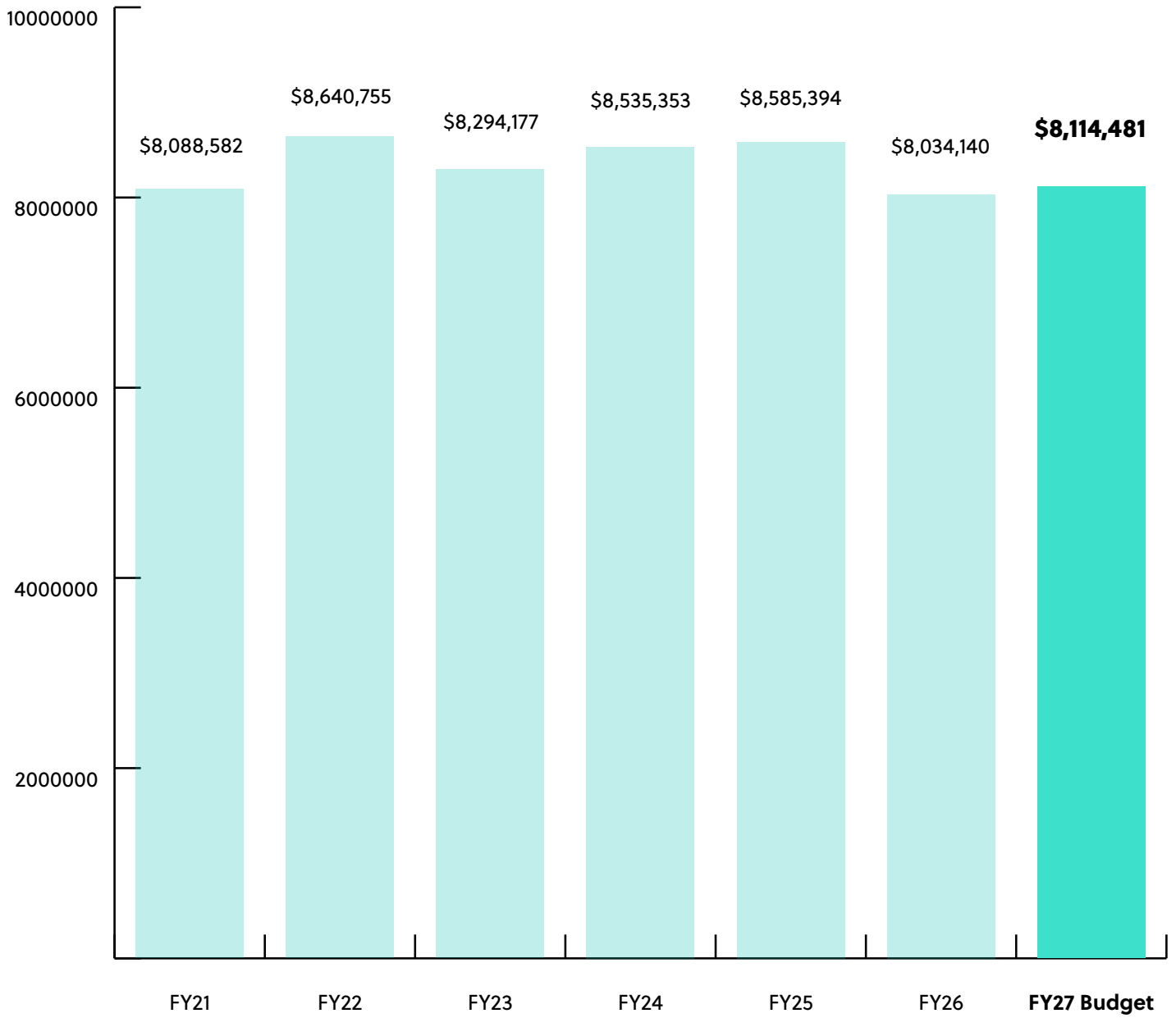
⁴ FY27 Facilities Budget includes Capital Budget of \$300,000

⁵ Financial & Legal Expenses includes Income Processing Expense, Audit, Legal, and Professional/Consultant expenses

⁶ FY27 Principal payment of remaining debt. | FY26 Debt partial payoff. See 3 Militia Sale Proceeds Summary | Debt refinanced in FY23. New financing procured in FY23

⁷ FY27 Remaining Grant Reimbursements from FY24 Security Grants | FY26 Reimbursements from FY24 Security Grants | FY24 Covid Relief Cares Act - Employee Retention Credit

General Fund Giving







win⁶² the prize for which God

2026-2027 NOMINEES

Term 1 Elders (2026–2030)

Linda Haines
Lexington

Craig Walton Lillehei, MD
Watertown

Doug Cogswell
Wilmington

Moderator

Don Vinh (year 2 of 3)

Clerk

Sue Lim (year 2 of 3)

Audit Committee

Shana Barmoy Chair (year 3 of 3)

Doug Thorpe (year 2 of 3)

Chris Guerriero (year 1 of 3)

Nominating Committee

Andrea Dacayanan Co-Chair
Lexington

Daniel Mitchell Co-Chair
Wilmington

Joshua Martin (year 2 of 2)
Lexington

Viorel Simion (year 2 of 2)
Wilmington

Alynn MacLean (year 1 of 2)
Foxboro

Susan Park (year 1 of 2)
Watertown

Annual Meeting Notes

June 22, 2025

Welcome, Opening Prayer, Agenda Review, Voting Process

Moderator Bob Williams opened the meeting with prayer at 12:30 PM. This year's theme is Deep Roots, Growing Branches.

Welcome and Video

Executive Pastor Mark MacDonald presented a video, "What do you love most about Grace Chapel?"

Board of Elders Report

Victor Gerdes, Chairman of the Board of Elders, read a letter from the elders. This has been a challenging year. In June of 2024 Pastor Bryan Wilkerson passed the baton to Pastor Joshua Clough but in March of 2025 it was announced that Pastor Joshua would be stepping down as senior pastor. Many people have stepped forward with offers of help. Every aspect of our ministry has continued to thrive and new ministries are coming into being. The staff have maintained their unwavering commitment.

There have been other challenges, including other staff departures and the closing of the Celebrate Recovery program. We have opened the building to Alcoholics Anonymous and Alanon. It is helpful to recognize that ministries go through life cycles.

The Board of Elders consists of nine volunteers, the Executive Pastor, and the Senior Pastor, usually meeting about 21 times a year to develop strategies and policies, and to make decisions on issues

that affect the entire church body. They are working on a new comprehensive strategic plan.

The Board is committed to establishing strong communication practices; praying and seeking God for discernment; listening to the congregation; continuing to prioritize a renewed vision and strategic plan; and adding some new Board committees to support the work that needs to be done.

The heart of Grace Chapel's mission remains making and mobilizing more disciples for Jesus Christ in greater Boston and the world.

The Chairman also discussed next steps for the survey that was taken among the congregation; the possibility of having an interim pastor; and the status of the senior pastor search.

Treasurer's Report and FY26 Budget

Kevin Johnson, Elder and Treasurer, gave the report.

The FY26 budget is based on a projected 3% decrease in contributions, for a total of \$8,326,334.

Contributions have to be balanced against the three cost centers of "people, buildings, and missions" when planning the budget.

Total FY26 operating revenue is projected at \$9,326,572, while actual revenue for FY25 was \$9,490,713. There is a large projected increase in interest income, from \$75,618 to \$175,000, the result of investing money from the sale of 3 Militia Drive.

Nominating Committee

Co-Chair Andrea Dacayanan presented the slate of nominees.

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Annual Meeting Notes (cont.)

- First Term Elders: Jim Citro and Sue Green
- Second Term Elders: Daniel Mitchell and Rebecca Li
- Nominating Committee: Andrea Dacayanan, Daniel Mitchell, Joshua Martin, Viorel Simion, Marie Bethonia Antoine, and Raymond Yu
- Audit Committee: Shana Barmoy, Eric Bergstrom, Doug Thorpe
- Moderator: Don Vinh
- Clerk: Sue Lim

Teaching Team Report

Tim Ghali reported the primary job of the team is to design sermon series. He gave a preview of upcoming series.

UPDATE AND NEXT STEPS: MEMBER BALLOT AND VOTING PROCESS

Mark McDonald reported that our building at 3 Militia Drive has been sold but will remain our main office through April 2026. The building at 2 Militia will get some maintenance and updates for ministry and office space.

Mark reviewed the process for member voting through the web site or with paper ballots.

QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

Bob Williams moderated the Q&A session. Questions could be asked in person or submitted by email.

Q. What is the process for finding a permanent replacement in the music leadership role at the Lexington classic service?

A. The staff of that campus is looking at the process and planning the next steps.

Q. How will construction at 2 Militia affect classes? Will the main building be renovated for offices at the same time? What about parking after 3 Militia is gone?

A. We're currently in the permit phase for 2 Militia; construction will start in September. During construction, many activities will be housed in 59 Worthen. In the long term, the new buildings going up in place of 3 Militia will include a parking garage, and we have negotiated for use of part of that garage on Sunday.

Q. Some staff vacancies have been left unfilled for budgetary reasons. What can we do to lessen the burden on the staff?

A. Staff reductions are a reality in corporate life and people do adjust. It's an opportunity for people to do more and to grow in their jobs.

Q. Can current staff members apply for the position of Senior Pastor?

A. Yes, the process is open to anyone who wishes to apply.

Q. How can one get access to the financial reports?

A. The audit reports are all online.

Q. Will there be a prayer and fasting time for the Senior Pastor search?

A. Nothing has been scheduled but there has been much prayer. The board of elders has kicked off a month of prayer.

Q. Are there permanent members of the board of elders or do they rotate?

A. The elders can serve two terms of four years.

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Annual Meeting Notes (cont.)

Q. Do the assets of the chapel vest with the board of elders?

A. We don't have an answer at this time. We will research the matter and put an answer online.

Q. Will the search committee be the same this time?

A. The search team has not yet been formalized.

Q. Are we growing in membership? What are we doing to grow membership?

A. Membership ebbs and flows but over the years has remained fairly steady. We have Connection Cards that attenders can fill out; we have a team to contact people who have filled out the cards. We have an "Explore Membership" class several times a year.

Q. Have the elders had any conversation about the rate of staff turnover in the last decade or so?

A. Over the last six years, our turnover has ranged between 9-12%. In organizations, that's a healthy rate. We want our people to learn, grow, and take new opportunities.

Closing Prayer

Sandy Shen, Vice-Chair of the Board of Elders, closed the meeting in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Alethea Yates, Clerk

