

Life Change is an Invitation Away



NICOLE GRAVES

My life has been one obstacle after another. I was brought into this world already labeled a mistake. I was in 48 foster homes and 12 group homes by the age 18. I hated myself and everyone around me. Drugs, sex, alcohol, and violence took over my life and I attempted suicide numerous times. On February 27, 2018 my world came crashing down when my best friend took his own life. When they told me, I fell to my knees and cried out to God "why would you take him out of my life?" I was in denial. I then realized that God had great plans for me. Isaiah 61:7 says instead of your shame you will receive double your portion. And instead of disgrace you will rejoice in your inheritance and you will inherit a double portion in your land and everlasting joy will be yours. He loves me unconditionally, nobody has ever done that. My life has changed so much since turning my life to God, I'm working on getting my GED, I'm an Ohio peer recovery specialist, my overall outlook on life has changed. I trust God that the past does not define me. Things aren't always easy but I get through it, I was drug and alcohol free 1 year on August 27, 2018. I'm learning more and more everyday that I was and am not a mistake, that God made me, and God does not make mistakes. God has forgiven me so I have to forgive me too. Coming and attending Grace has been very enlightening to me. I feel like I belong, no-one judges me, and everyone accepts me. Everyone is always willing to help me in any way they can.

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TAKE FIVE AND PRAY:

UNLEASH! WEEKEND [February 22-23] Pray for our church to come together for a Night of Worship, a Vision Talk, and Leadership Training at UNLEASH! WEEKEND. Pray that God unleashes our church for its full redemptive potential and for people to be unleashed for fruitful gospel ministry.

SUNDAY SERIES [The Holy Spirit] Pray for people to discover and begin to understand the Holy Spirit. Pray that this series would allow us to grow in our personal ministry and our relationship with the Lord.

SOUTHEAST ASIA - ORPHAN CARE Pray for our 87 rescued orphans in Thailand and Cambodia. We are currently in need of more monthly contributors to meet our annual commitment to our four homes. Pray for more people to take their next step and engage globally through orphan care.

INTERNSHIPS Pray for our staff as we are interviewing for our summer internship program, funded through the Greatest Gift Christmas Offering. Pray for wisdom and for life-change for these young leaders that are seeking hands-on ministry training, discipleship and leadership development.

NIGHT TO SHINE [February 8] Pray for our community to experience God's love through this prom-like event for students and adults with special needs. Hundreds of people from our community (churches, businesses, nonprofits etc) will gather together at Grace Church and put on an unforgettable experience celebrating over 100 guests needs.

NEW TO GRACE? Learn more about Grace and how to take your next steps in your spiritual journey at Starting Point. Join us March 17 at 12:30pm in room 154. Lunch provided. Register at woostergrace.org/starting-point.

A NEW YOUNG ADULT GRACE GROUP begins Sunday, Feb. 17, 11:30am in room 423. If you are 20-30 years old, this weekly group is worth checking out!

FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY begins today at 4:00pm.

GRIEFSHARE begins March 4, 7:00pm. Find encouragement in the face of the loss of a loved one through this great biblical study. Register online woostergrace.org/electives.

COMMUNICATION WEBPAGE is a hub for Grace Church publications, check out www.woostergrace.org/communication.

MEN - JOIN US FOR A 6-SESSION STUDY on God's plan for manhood as modeled by Jesus beginning Tuesday, February 12, 6:30pm in the Student Center Café.

WHEN CANCER STRIKES An 8-week support group and study for cancer patients and families, Mondays at 6:30-8:00pm in the S. Fellowship Hall.

RETIRED AND LOOKING FOR FELLOWSHIP Join us for our Legacy gathering Wednesdays, 10:00am in the Student Center. Enjoy coffee, singing, and the video, "That the World May Know."

SUNDAY MORNING STUDENT GROUP meets at 10:15am upstairs above the gym every Sunday except the last Sunday of the month when they serve on Sunday morning. Contact ssnyder@woostergrace.org.

BABY BOTTLE FUNDRAISER Help support the work of the Pregnancy Care Center of Wayne County. Return bottles Feb. 17 & 24.

WOOSTER CHRISTIAN SCHOOL Pre-K Open House, Thursday, February 28, 6:00-7:30pm! Meet the teachers, view the facilities, and receive an enrollment packet. For information about Pre-Kindergarten and Jr. Kindergarten, visit our website: www.woosterchristianschool.com.

ENCOMPASS WORLD PARTNERS, CHAD Pray for wisdom and strength for the part-time missionaries who work with the Chadian church in supporting dispensaries and clinics across the African country—ministries that are an integral part in reaching the least-reached.

GRACE CHURCH FINANCIAL INFORMATION through 02/03/2019	
Year-to-Date Giving	\$2,546,153
Fiscal Year-to-Date Budget Need	\$2,615,724 (\$69,571 - 2.7% under need)*

*BASED ON A SEASONALLY ADJUSTED AVERAGE THERE IS A (\$84,883) YTD NEED.

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