

## OUR CREDO

We value the GRACE of God announced in the GOSPEL, given in LOVE, celebrated in WORSHIP, promoted in PRAYER, taught in SCRIPTURE, extended in SERVICE, and supported in GIVING.

### PASTORAL LEADERSHIP TEAM

Ray A. Meyer (Sr. Pastor)..... ray.meyer@gci.org - (816) 734-4025  
Jack Zvorak (Assoc. Pastor)..... jzvorak@kc.rr.com - (816) 436-6959  
Martin Koenig (Asst. Pastor)..... mjkoenig99@yahoo.com - (913) 231-0542  
Mailing address..... P. O. Box 28183, Kansas City, MO 64188  
LGF Website..... <http://LGFKC.gcichurches.org>  
LGF Email address..... LGFKC@yahoo.com

### ELDERS

Dick Mann..... dickandlydia@gmx.com - (913) 439-1779  
Gerald Sullenger..... (816) 796-1252

### YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRIES

Youth & Family Ministry Directors..... Martin & Sarah Koenig  
..... mjkoenig99@yahoo.com - sarah.koenig@yahoo.com - (913) 752-7085  
Children's Church Coordinator..... Janice Bass - janiceb64@yahoo.com - (816) 468-0981  
Teen Ministry..... Perry Haden, Ben Reed (816) 286-0531, James Warren

### CONGREGATIONAL MINISTRIES

Women's Ministry Coordinator..... Karen Anderson  
..... anderson62784@suddenlink.net - (913) 755-2824  
Women's Ministry Advisor..... Carol Meyer - cmeyer@avmi.org - (816) 734-4025  
Men's Ministry Coordinator..... Jack Zvorak (816) 436-6959  
Silver Ambassadors Coordinators..... Darrell Haden, Tom Wempe  
TLC Ministry Coordinator..... Janice Bass (816) 468-0981  
Ushering Coordinators..... Tom Wempe, Perry Haden

### DENOMINATION INFORMATION

Mailing address for local offerings..... LGF-KCMO, P.O. Box 8636, KCMO 64114  
Regional Pastoral Leader..... Ken Williams - ken.williams@gci.org - (585) 771-7314  
Grace Communion International President..... Joseph Tkach  
GCI Website..... <http://www.gci.org>

### WEBSITES & BLOGS

Surprising God Blog..... <http://thesurprisinggodblog.wcg.org>  
Trinitarian Worship Blog..... <http://trinitarianworship.blogspot.com>  
GenMin Connection..... <http://genmin.blogspot.com>  
It Looks Like This Blog..... <http://gci-usa.blogspot.com>

# LIVING GRACE FELLOWSHIP

A congregation of Grace Communion International

*Glorifying Jesus by being a life-giving church,  
living and sharing God's love and grace.*



## Sunday, February 5, 2012

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"Journeying with Jesus Toward Transformation" (#2)  
-Launching a Mission-Focused Prayer Initiative-

Sermon by Pastor Ray Meyer

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Worship with us Sundays at 10:30 a.m.  
at Whitefield Academy  
8929 Holmes, Kansas City, MO

[LGFKC.gcichurches.org](http://LGFKC.gcichurches.org)

## GREETINGS FRIENDS AND GUESTS!

Welcome to Living Grace Fellowship, a congregation of Grace Communion International! To first time guests, we extend a special welcome. We are committed to preaching the gospel, walking in the footsteps of Jesus, and being a “life-giving church.” With the help of God, we strive to live by Christ’s teachings and be led by the Holy Spirit. We hope the worship service is enjoyable & profitable for you.

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### TODAY’S SERVICE

Welcome/Announcements/Opening Prayer	Pastor Ray Meyer
Worship Leader	Jack Zvorak
Worship Set	
Intercessory Prayer	Benjamin Reed
Offering	Benjamin Reed
Youth Corner	Martin Koenig
Worship Song	
Sermon:	Pastor Ray Meyer
“Journeying with Jesus Toward Transformation” (#2)	
-Launching a Mission-Focused Prayer Initiative-	
Communion	
Closing Song	
Benediction	

Acts 2:42-43

<sup>42</sup> They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. <sup>43</sup> Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles.

## Prayer Corner

Following her hip surgery, Rita Caskey is now at the Villages of Jackson Creek nursing facility in Independence for therapy and rehabilitation. She is doing pretty well, but please continue to pray for Rita’s complete recovery.

Benjamin Reed requests your prayers for his eye surgery on February 7. Please pray for a successful operation.

Deborah Johnson reports that her back condition is improving, but now she has a sprained toe. Please pray for God’s healing touch.

Carol Meyer-----Fibromyalgia  
Melissa Kasunic-----cancer  
Jason & Julie Frantz-----sale of their home  
Barbara Castro ----- leaking heart valves  
Beverly Johnson -----injured shoulder and arm  
Edith Douglas (shut-in)-----loss of eyesight and mobility  
Richard Eakright----- emphysema  
Ethel L’Hommedieu -----nursing home--complications from a broken hip  
Kim Kissell ----- cancer of the bone marrow  
Dick Mann ----- prostate cancer  
Stuart Roberts ----- prostate troubles  
Ray Simmons-----needs a liver transplant  
Charles Smith ----- glaucoma  
Suzanne Sullenger----- complex regional pain syndrome, back pain, TMJ

### Jesus’ was Mission-Focused in Prayer

*He prayed upon the mountain, He prayed for you and me,  
He prayed in humble dwellings, He prayed beside the sea.*

*He prayed in early morning, He prayed with all His might,  
He prayed at noonday and at dusk, He prayed all thro’ the night.*

*He prayed for those who scorned Him, For those who killed Him, too,  
He prayed, “Father forgive them: They know not what they do.”*

*He prayed when He was lonely, He prayed when He was sad,  
He prayed when He was weary, He prayed when He was glad.*

*He prayed for those in sorrow, He prayed for those in sin,  
He prayed for those in trouble, That they might come to Him.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PRAYER-TEAM VOLUNTEERS:** For those interested in finding out more about the Mission-Focused Prayer Initiative, please come to the Nursery immediately following services for a short meeting.

**YEAR-END RECEIPTS:** Year-end contribution receipts have been mailed. If you have not received yours or there is any discrepancy, please contact our treasurer, Shirley Everman. Thank you for your generous support!

**FEBRUARY-- MONTH OF PRAYER & FASTING:** Our tradition for quite some time has been to designate February as a month of prayer and fasting. We have always been blessed as a result, and we will do so again this year. You are invited and encouraged to participate in this month of special communion with God to seek His face and will.

**HOME GROUPS:** The Lee's Summit Home Group will meet on February 17 at 1:30 p.m. at the home of Shirley Everman, and the Shawnee Home Group will meet on February 15 and 29 at 7:00 p.m. at the Koenig's home. This is a great way to grow spiritually. All are welcome.

**TRINITARIAN THEOLOGY CLASS:** Our next Trinitarian Theology class will be held on February 18 at the Corinth Library, 8100 Mission Rd. in Prairie Village, KS from 10 a.m. till noon. This is a great opportunity to learn. Plan now to attend.

**WOMEN'S AND MEN'S MINISTRY:** Women's Ministry will meet following services on February 26. Sarah Koenig will serve as hostess and will summarize the TCAT survey and what it means on our journey forward. Men's Ministry will also meet following services and will view a Transformational Church video and discuss it. These meetings are great opportunities for fellowship and discipleship. Plan now to attend.

**ADULT BIBLE CLASS:** Adult Bible Class meets at 9:30 a.m. every Sunday. Currently, we are studying the book of Ephesians. Join us for good fellowship and a stimulating learning experience!

**MEN'S FELLOWSHIP:** Men's Fellowship meets every Wednesday at 7:00 a.m. at the Overland Park Lutheran Church, 79<sup>th</sup> & Lowell in Overland Park, KS. All men are welcome to attend.

**OFFERING ENVELOPES:** When preparing your offering, please be sure to fill out the tab that is with the offering envelope. This helps greatly in processing your offering. Thank you! For envelopes, see an usher or Tom Wempe or Perry Haden.

## SPEAKING OF LIFE

with Dr. Joseph Tkach



### Self Portrait of God

To get a true idea of what God is really like, we need to look beneath the layers of the popular concepts about God, by looking to the God revealed in Jesus Christ. When we do that, a true and undistorted understanding of God emerges.

What might be a self-portrait of Rembrandt has been discovered hidden under another one of the Dutch master's paintings. By using advanced scanning techniques, scientists investigated a Rembrandt painting titled "Old Man with a Beard" and much to their surprise, the scan revealed that another painting was underneath—one that might well be an early, unfinished self-portrait of the artist himself. It seems as if Rembrandt had begun a self-portrait, then later used the canvas to paint the "Old Man with a Beard."

The story reminded me of the way most of us think about God. We often think of him like the second painting – an old man with a beard. After all, that's how religious artists usually portray him. So we grow up thinking of God as an old, distant, and rather threatening figure—stern and quick to anger if we fail to live up to his impossible standards. But, this way of thinking about God obscures what God is really like, just as the painting of the old man obscures the self-portrait beneath it.

To get a true idea of what God is really like, we need to look beneath the layers of the popular concepts about God, by looking to the God revealed in Jesus Christ. When we do that, a true and undistorted understanding of God emerges.

"If you have seen me, you have seen the Father," Jesus explained. Only Jesus shows us what God is really like. Our God—the Father, Son and Holy Spirit—loves us unconditionally and will never let us go. God is not out there, *somewhere in the sky scowling at us*, ready to pounce and punish. The Bible tells us that it is the Father's "good pleasure to give us the Kingdom," and that God is not "willing that any should perish." It tells us that God sent Jesus into the world because he loves the world – not to condemn humanity but to save it (John 3:16-17). Once you get past the layers of misunderstanding, the true picture of God is one of love—much greater than we can possibly imagine.

Through Jesus, we are shown God's true heart toward us—we see him as he really is, not as a distant figure who is mad at us and unconcerned about us. In fact, he is right here with us, ready for us to turn to him and receive his loving embrace.

Don't let other images get in the way of who God is or how God feels about you. Look to Jesus, who alone is the self-portrait of God.

I'm Joseph Tkach, speaking of LIFE.