



**GRACE BIBLE
CHURCH**
NEW ORLEANS, LA

Support Letter



On behalf of the faithful saints of Grace Bible Church in New Orleans East, grace be with you all who love our Lord Jesus Christ with incorruptible love (Eph. 6:24).

When three families (7 adults and 14 children total) set out from Arizona and relocated to New Orleans, Louisiana, we knew that this would be an arduous, long-term endeavor. We were prepared to endure cultural instability, to witness slow growth, and to openly proclaim Christ's lordship while humbly submitting to his instructions for the church. We are still committed to these things and are praying that God would strengthen our hands to remain faithful in the days ahead.

Since planting Grace Bible Church in 2024, we have witnessed God begin to establish His people in New Orleans East through our labors and we wait with eager expectation for what God will do in the future. It is with this thought of continuing the work that God has begun that I am requesting your help in supporting our efforts. The following pages are meant to help potential supporters understand the convictions and direction of our ministry as they prayerfully consider partnering with us.

Thank you for reading our support letter and thank you for your consideration.



Omri Miles,
Lead Pastor



OUR PURPOSE

GRACE BIBLE CHURCH EXISTS AS THE HOUSEHOLD OF GOD TO MAKE DISCIPLES IN NEW ORLEANS WHO, TOGETHER, ACCURATELY REPRESENT GOD AND FAITHFULLY UPHOLD HIS TRUTH IN THE WORLD.



"When was it that Christianity or the Christian Church ever by its influence permanently pervaded, and regenerated, and transformed the world? It is not in the world, but in the people whom it gathers out of the world that its vivifying and new-creating power is fully seen."

— ISLAY BURNS, *THE PASTOR OF KILSYTH*

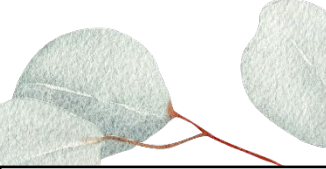


OUR DISTINCTIVES

THE CHURCH'S DISTINCTIVES ARE THOSE VISIBLE TRAITS THAT WE DESIRE TO BE COMMONPLACE IN
THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH AS WE SEEK TO SUCCESSFULLY CARRY OUT OUR PURPOSE.

I.	<i>qualified</i> LEADERSHIP	Those who lead God's church must be marked by exemplary godliness so that the church's message is irreproachable and so that its members are conformed to Christ's image as they imitate the faith of their leaders. Therefore, we will appoint leaders who are marked by imitable godliness, wisdom, and humility, never bypassing these qualities in favor of a man's skill, charisma, or gifting. 1 Corinthians 11:1; 1 Timothy 3:1-13; Titus 1:5-9; 2:7-8; Hebrew 13:7
II.	<i>expository</i> PREACHING	Expository preaching is the authoritative proclamation of God's Word in which the preacher clearly sets forth the divinely intended meaning of the biblical text and brings the contemporary implications of its timeless truth to bear on the lives of the people. ¹ Therefore, all that we do as a church must reflect our dependence on and prioritization of the preaching and teaching of God's word. 1 Timothy 1:3-11; 6:3-5; 2 Timothy 3:16-4:2; Titus 2:1-10
III.	<i>fruitful</i> FAITH	Everyone whom God graciously saves through faith will embrace Jesus as Lord, ever striving to make their thoughts, desires, motives, words, and deeds submit to God's will so that they bear fruit in keeping with repentance. Therefore, we will seek to graciously stimulate and humbly evaluate one another's faith, knowing that our obedient (albeit imperfect) good works are the evidence of saving faith and God's grace at work in us. Romans 6:1-4; Ephesians 2:8-10; 4:17-5:4; Philippians 2:12-13; Titus 2:11-14; James 1:26-27; 2:14-26; 1 John 3:4-10

¹ This definition borrowed from Matthew Waymeyer, "Conversation with Matt Waymeyer" (The Expositors Seminary Blog, March 12, 2016).



IV.

masculine TRAINNING

Continually raising up men to Christian maturity is essential to the church's proper working and enduring faithfulness because God has ordained that men would lead the church as well as the family, which is the basic building block of any society. Therefore, we will make training the men of the church our discipleship priority, yet without neglecting the discipleship needs of the women and children among us.

**Genesis 2:19-20; 3:16, 20; Mark 3:13-19; Ephesians 5:22-24;
1 Timothy 2:7; 3:1-7; 2 Timothy 2:2; Titus 1:5-9**



V.

meaningful MEMBERSHIP

Church membership confirms a believer's attachment to a local assembly so that each member formally affirms the church's teaching and formally commits to participating in the church's ministry, living obediently with the other members, and submitting to the church's leadership. Therefore, we will maintain clear standards for membership and prioritize our ministry to one another.

**Acts 2:41-47; 17:4; Romans 12:10; Ephesians 4:25; Hebrews 13:17;
1 Peter 5:1-5**

VI.

biblical COUNSELING

The Scriptures are sufficient to equip God's people to live a life pleasing to Him without the help of psychological theories, scientific discoveries, or manmade ideologies. Therefore, we will consult the Scriptures alone to understand what constitutes good human behavior, proper mental life, and healthy personhood.

**Psalms 19:7-9; 119:24; Proverbs 2:9; 30:5-6; Romans 15:14;
Ephesians 5:3-4; 1 Timothy 3:14-15; 2 Timothy 3:16-17**

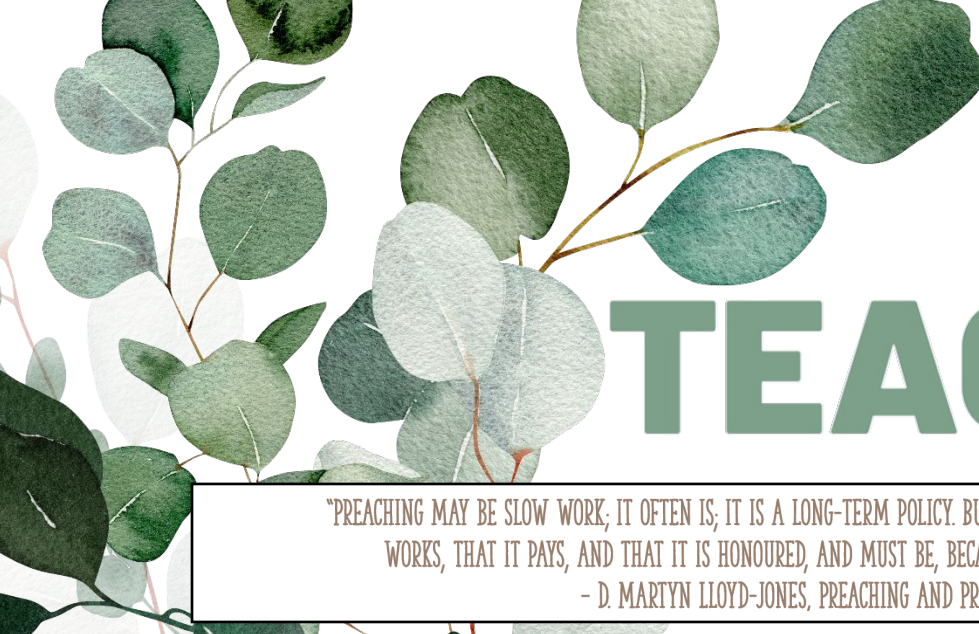


VII.

familial DISCIPLINE

One primary way that God disciplines His children is through their loving pursuit and gentle correction of one another for their restoration or until unrepentant hardness of heart is revealed. Therefore, we will strive to gently, patiently, and lovingly admonish, encourage, help, and instruct one another so that together we might share in God's holiness, represent Him accurately in the world, and faithfully uphold His truth.

**Proverbs 12:1; Matthew 18:15-20; 1 Corinthians 5:1-13; 1 Timothy 1:20;
3:14-15; 5:1; Titus 3:10-11; Hebrews 12:4-11; Revelation 3:19**



OUR TEACHING

"PREACHING MAY BE SLOW WORK; IT OFTEN IS; IT IS A LONG-TERM POLICY. BUT MY WHOLE CONTENTION IS THAT IT WORKS, THAT IT PAYS, AND THAT IT IS HONOURED, AND MUST BE, BECAUSE IT IS GOD'S OWN METHOD."

- D. MARTYN LLOYD-JONES, PREACHING AND PREACHERS

PSALM 119 This was our initial sermon series that lasted from January 2024 to February 2025. It was foundational to the life of our church because the psalm articulates an imminently practical view of the Bible.

THE HOME These 32 lessons from Ephesians 5:18-6:9 were taught in our midweek Bible study and were intended to unify our church around scriptural teaching on men and women's roles in marriage, parenting, and family life. For without orderly homes, the church will largely fail in other ministry endeavors.

FORGIVENESS The second series in our Sunday morning gatherings unpacked the nature and practice of forgiveness. Almost every pastoral counseling case involves forgiveness at some level, and the church cannot last long without a robust understanding of this crucial biblical doctrine.

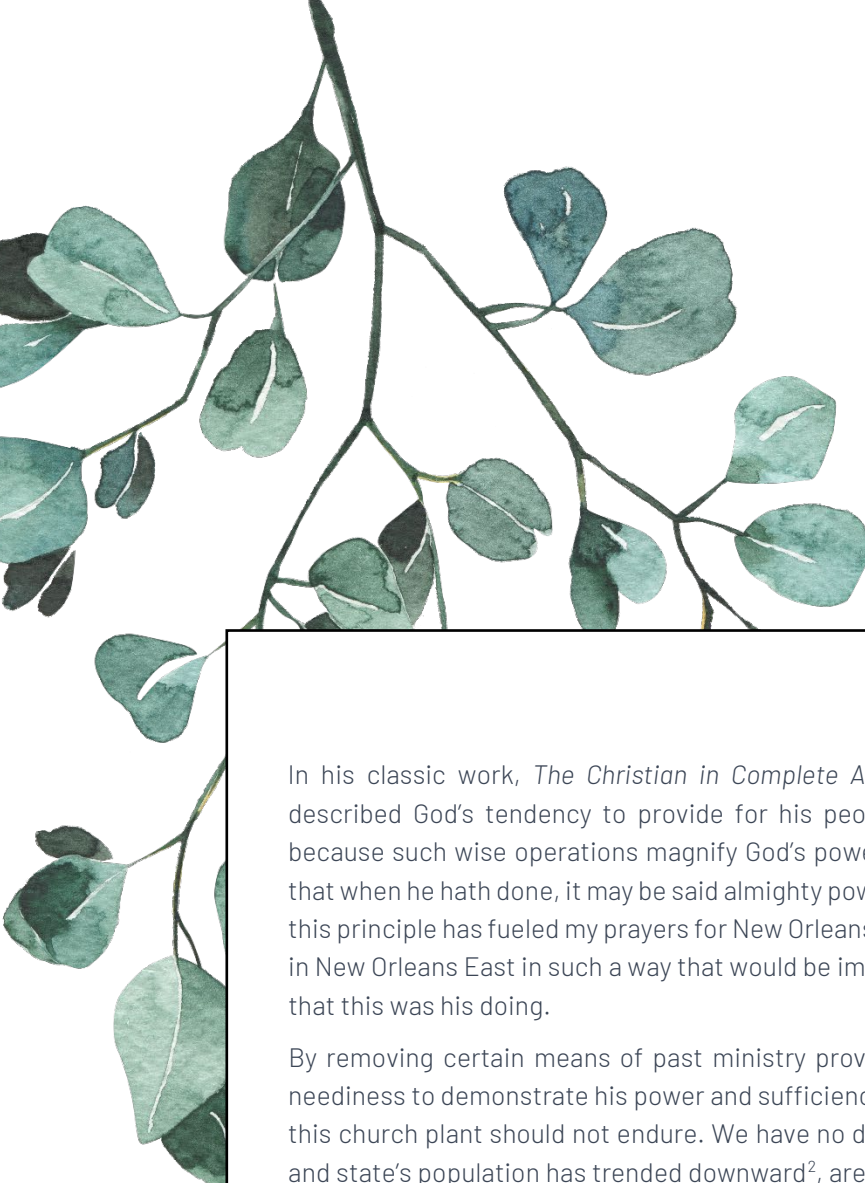
DISCERNING SCHIZOPHRENIA After receiving an invitation to teach at a local counseling conference on the subject, this eight-part series was the fruit of my study on the complexities of psychosis, or what is more popularly known by its mental health moniker — schizophrenia. A glossary of terms associated with the schizophrenia construct with brief explanations of their significance to the Christian worldview can be found [here](#).

SPIRITUAL WARFARE This series is an exposition of the classic section on the armor of God from Ephesians 6:10-20. It details the nature, importance, and methods associated with God's weaponry for the Christian's victory over spiritual forces.

FIRST JOHN We began this Sunday morning series in May 2025. The apostle John wrote this letter so that those who believe might confidently join him and the other apostles in confident fellowship with the triune God.

also, check out...

[OUR STORY \(VIDEO\)](#) | [2025 READING GUIDE](#) | [DOCTRINAL STATEMENT](#)



OUR NEED

"NOT THAT I SEEK THE GIFT ITSELF, BUT I SEEK THE FRUIT WHICH
INCREASES TO YOUR ACCOUNT." - 1 THESSALONIANS 4:17

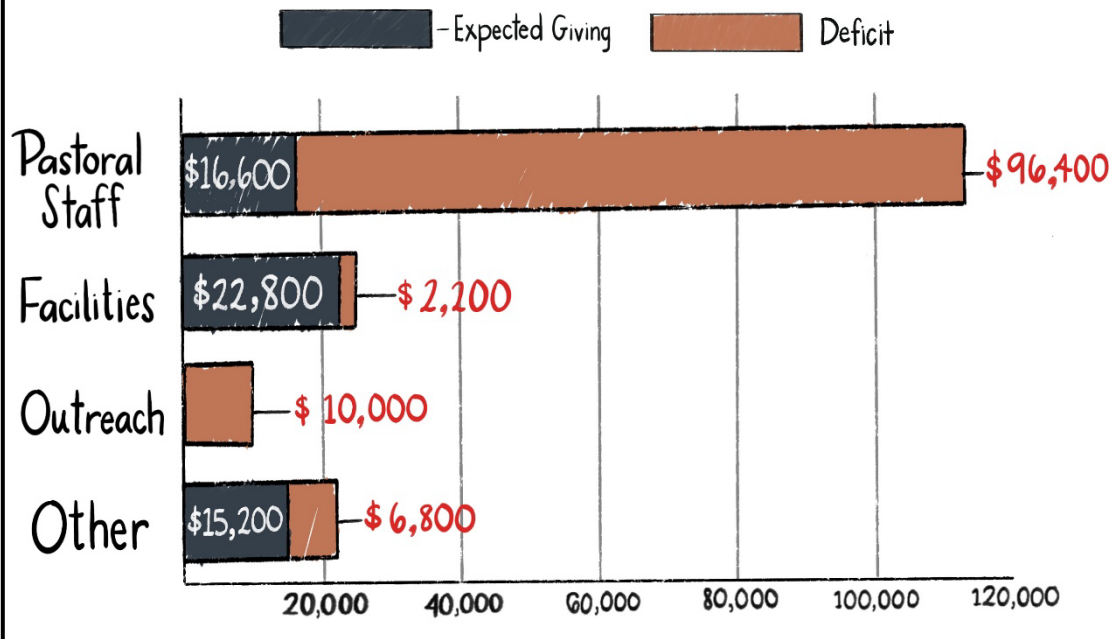
In his classic work, *The Christian in Complete Armour*, Puritan pastor William Gurnall (1616-1679) described God's tendency to provide for his people only after their situation became desperate, because such wise operations magnify God's power most. "God lays the scene of his providence so, that when he hath done, it may be said almighty power was here." Gurnall wrote. For several years now, this principle has fueled my prayers for New Orleans. I have regularly asked God to establish his church in New Orleans East in such a way that would be impossible without his working, to make it clear to all that this was his doing.

By removing certain means of past ministry provision, the Lord seems to be using this season of neediness to demonstrate his power and sufficiency toward us. Furthermore, by every earthly metric, this church plant should not endure. We have no denominational backing, are located where the city and state's population has trended downward², are in a segment of the city with a dying economy and where violent crime and poverty are commonplace. Our success is obviously entirely in God's hands - what a great place for us to be!

As we eagerly anticipate how God might work, would you please consider being the means by which he provides?

² For Louisiana's population by year, see <https://www.neilsberg.com/insights/louisiana-population-by-year/>. For the same data on the city of New Orleans, see <https://www.neilsberg.com/insights/new-orleans-la-population-by-year/>.

2026 EXPECTED GIVING AND DEFICIT BY CATEGORY



PROJECTED BUDGET

Pastoral Staff ³	113,000 (66%)
Facilities	25,000 (15%)
Outreach	10,000 (6%)
Other	22,000 (13%)

Total	\$170,000 ⁴
-------	------------------------

PROJECTED DONATIONS

Regular Giving	\$27,000
Ministry Partners	\$27,600

Deficit	\$121,400
----------------	------------------

³ This includes salary, benefits, HSA contribution, and retirement

⁴ This figure is based on our budget the past two years (2024-2025) and would require minimal changes moving forward. We are committed to limiting our spending to only what God provides us. Therefore, since my (Omri's) compensation (salary + benefits) makes up the greatest portion of our expenses, I would seek to reduce our spending by finding additional work.



GIVING OPTIONS

check.

This is a preferable means of giving since it ensures that 100% of the funds received go directly toward ministry use. Checks can be mailed to

P. O. Box 24338
New Orleans, LA 70124-3900

online.

One-time and recurring donations can be made at
<https://gracebiblenola.org/give/>.

Donors should be aware that 2-3% of their donation will go to our online merchant for processing fees.