

# 2022-2023

## Annual Report

---



GRACE  POINT

# Table Of Contents

**From Pastor Tim**

**Page 2**

**By the Numbers**

**Pages 3-5**

**Ministry Team Updates**

**Page 6-9**

## Mission Statement

Grace Point exists to lead people into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ, by creating environments where life change can happen.

## Core Values

### GROWTH

Jesus is calling us to follow Him every day in relationship.

### TRUTH

God has revealed Himself to us in scripture and we recognize that as the final authority in our lives.

### GRACE

The possibility of good things happening to undeserving people is irresistible.

### RELEVANCE

Every ministry environment is designed to effectively connect with its target audience.

### COMMUNITY

The sense of belonging, connectedness, accountability, and care happen better in circles than it does in rows.

### TEAM

Our spiritual gifts have maximum impact when we work together. WE is better than ME.

### JOY

The words "church" and "fun" should be used in the same sentence more often.

# From Pastor Tim

2

As I look back on the last year, for me personally, it has been a year where I've never been more thankful for the body of Christ, and specifically, for all of you at Grace Point. It was a year where I felt pulled in multiple directions while finishing up my Master's degree, watching my son graduate high school, and all the things that come with having a senior. I have been so grateful for you...the body of Christ, here at Grace Point.

Romans 12:4-5 says, "Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, so it is with Christ's body. We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other." Paul goes on to list numerous gifts of the body and this year many of them have been on full display at Grace Point.

In November, we celebrated more than 300 volunteers who have served this church and our community well (Verse 7). Whether you serve as a small group leader, with KidsPoint, on our car ministry team, as a greeter, coffee maker, or virtual host, our weekly ministries happen because of you.

I'm also thankful for the team at Grace Point. We have an incredible staff in character, chemistry, and competency. Many of them have stepped up to take on extra teaching duties this year, and I've been so blessed by their faithfulness to God's Word and its edification for our body. If they weren't teaching from the stage in the worship center, they were teaching in small groups, in our family ministry environments, or in discipleship classes. I'm often times gobsmacked by the team God allows me to work with.

So many of you have the gifts of encouragement, generosity, leadership and kindness (Verse 8). I have been encouraged by your notes, your kind words, and the way you take ownership of the ministry of this church. I was blown away by your continued generosity as our collective giving once again crossed \$1 million. Grace Point exists because YOU are leading people into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ. The staff can create and lead the environments, but it is the relationships you build that help us show Topeka who Jesus is and how to grow in a relationship with Him.

As we enter another year, I want to encourage you from Romans 12:9-12: Continue loving each other with genuine affection, delighting in honoring one another. Keep working hard and serving the Lord enthusiastically. Join me in rejoicing in our confident hope, be patient in trouble, and keep praying that God will use this body as part of His plan to reach the hurting, the lonely, the unchurched, our neighbors, and friends in Topeka and beyond.

Pastor Tim



# By the Numbers & Environments

3

## Corporate Worship

Living a lifestyle of worship 24/7/365

16 Baptisms

11 Teaching Series

9 New Members



Avg. Weekly Attendance

608 Adults

56 Online viewers

Giving

\$1,100,912.78

Weekly Avg. \$21,171.40



# By the Numbers & Environments

## Groups

Connecting people to God and each other

**236** Adults in 30  
small groups

**65** Adults in 17  
discipleship groups



## Service

Investing my life in what will last forever

**1,556** hours serving with  
local partners

**61**

cars serviced through  
the car ministry



# By the Numbers & Environments

## Family Ministry

Combining the influences of church and home

**146** Avg. weekly  
KidsPoint  
attendance

**44** Avg. weekly Tandem  
attendance



## Missions

Discovering ways to reach people Jesus misses most

**\$84,000**

to serve our mission partners

**\$40,324**

raised in Advent Conspiracy



# Ministry Team Updates

6



## PASTOR JOSH COOPER

### DISCIPLESHIP

**What was the greatest ministry win of the year?**

A big win in discipleship ministry is when people are empowered and activated to create community because they see a need and respond to God's invitation to meet that need. A couple examples where we saw this happen

this year are the women's IF conference and the launch of the 55 Alive group for folks 55 years and older.

**What is one thing God taught you this year?**

God is teaching me that this is His ministry and He is building a team around me to accommodate this growing ministry.

**How can people pray for your ministry this coming year?**

There are unique challenges and opportunities ahead of us. I appreciate prayer for those whom God is prompting to step out in faith to lead a group. Pray for the Holy Spirit to align us and give us clear direction and purpose. Pray for our small group and discipleship group leaders who serve so faithfully and sacrificially. Personally, I would appreciate prayer for discernment around how to formally start spiritual direction ministry once I graduate from my training program.



## PASTOR MARC GIFFIN

### CREATIVE ARTS

**What was the greatest ministry win of the year?**

One of the greatest wins we've seen this year is the level of commitment from our worship/tech team to be at three services EVERY week! That's a 6 hour day for our volunteers!

I also need to give props to Chris Ireland for creating a new production room to improve our livestream and online engagement. He also trained new volunteers to lead the charge!

**What is one thing God taught you this year?**

You can never have too many great people around you. Starting with Jake and Chris...and then the list of volunteers. They all make my job so much easier.

**How can people pray for your ministry this coming year?**

Fresh vision for the team. Fresh anointing. New ideas. I've done this for a long time now. And I never want to get complacent.

**One Fun Factoid:**

Our "new" worship leader (he's been here a year now) is nearer to my daughter's age than mine. I don't know if that makes me old or him young. I'm inclined to say BOTH!

# Ministry Team Updates

7



## **PASTOR NIKI COPELAND** KIDSPPOINT

### **What was the greatest ministry win of the year?**

For KidsPoint, the win never changes. Our greatest ministry win of the year is when a child chooses to give his/her heart to the saving grace of Jesus Christ. This year, once again, the Holy Spirit worked in the lives of several of our kids and

they are now walking as children of God.

### **What is one thing God taught you this year?**

God will make a way, so go ahead and try new things! Try things like partnering with the ministry, Doxazo, to host a week-long day camp. Say good-bye to our longtime ministry assistant and restructure the kids ministry staff, create monthly Loop Nights and family nights, and start a third service. The year certainly started with me questioning what God was doing but, looking back, He had us in His loving hand the whole time. God will always make a way to raise up the next generation of kids to be His hands and feet in the world.

### **How can people pray for your ministry this coming year?**

Pray for the parents of Grace Point. Never before has a generation of parents had to face what our young parents are facing as they endeavor to raise their children to understand the gift and grace of the gospel. My heart desires more than ever to help parents raise their children in the loving truth of God's word and to understand the difference between the lies the world is telling them and the loving truth of walking with Jesus.

Pray for our incredible KidsPoint volunteers who show up each Sunday morning in the life of a child in order to show them they can trust in Jesus who will never stop showing up for them.

Pray for our kids to understand God's word and to feel the love of Jesus in such a way they cannot imagine growing up without Him.

### **One Fun Factoid:**

Gaga Ball is the most fun way to hang out with 5th and 6th graders!



# Ministry Team Updates

8



## **PASTORS FAITH HANSARD & JAKE WOODS** TANDEM YOUTH MINISTRY

**What was the greatest ministry win of the year?**

Our leaders are AMAZING! They love our students so well. They step up in ways that go beyond the typical volunteer. Their dedication is what makes it possible to minister to nearly 50 kids every week.

**What is one thing God taught you this year?**

God continues to teach us the importance of being a safe place for students to talk about the hard stuff. They need a listening ear and someone they can trust, who is willing to be in the moment with them.

**How can people pray for your ministry this coming year?**

Being a teenager is challenging especially in today's world. Everything and everyone is trying to fight for their attention. Please pray that our students prioritize their relationship with Jesus above all else.

**One Fun Factoid:**

We have 6-8 students taking guitar lessons with Pastor Jake every Wednesday before youth group. We are so grateful to have someone who is investing in our students and their musical goals.



## **PASTOR JIM WALDEN** CONNECTIONS TEAM

**What was the greatest ministry win of the year?**

Working each Sunday with the volunteers - they all have great attitudes and infectious joy - as well as getting to know the folks on the Connections Team. I started just over one year ago (June 1) and getting to know and work

with these folks has been fantastic.

**What is one thing God taught you this year?**

He continues to remind me that He's not done with any of us, regardless of age, background or experience! He's the Faithful One toward His people in SO many ways.

**How can people pray for your ministry this coming year?**

Pray for abundantly more people...more people to join the Connections Team and find a place to serve. Also pray for more folks to be welcomed in great ways on Sundays so they can come to faith in Jesus!

**One Fun Factoid:**

We have folks who serve from the ages of 19 to 80+! It's incredible.

# Ministry Team Updates

9



## NIKI MALONEY

### COMMUNICATIONS & YOUNG ADULTS

**What was the greatest ministry win of the year?**

The biggest ministry win for our communications ministry is our continued online participation. Several times throughout the year, I would be stopped in public and someone who has never been inside Grace Point would tell me how glad they are for our online services. For our young adults, it was celebrating the baptism of several young men and women.

**What is one thing God taught you this year?**

Numbers are important, but they aren't everything. We've had some very small young adult events, but we've also seen incredible spiritual growth in our young adult small groups.

**How can people pray for your ministry this coming year?**

Pray that God would stir in the hearts of our young adults to reach out, invite their friends to small groups, and that He would strengthen their commitment to Him and His church.

**One Fun Factoid:**

We've seen a 50% year-over-year growth in usage of our Church Center app! Way to go Grace Point!



## DEREK HARRISON

### MISSIONS

**What was the greatest ministry win of the year?**

We began preparing and planning for our first overseas mission trips happening in July of this year! We haven't been able to send overseas teams since before Covid.

**What is one thing God taught you this year?**

If I am willing, He can use me even if I don't feel equipped.

**How can people pray for your ministry this coming year?**

Pray for a strong interest in our people for going on and supporting mission trips. They can be so transformative. It is always a joy to see how a person's perspectives change and how they grow in their relationship with Jesus after going on a trip.

**One Fun Factoid:**

In addition to supporting missionaries abroad, we have several local organizations that we partner with that anyone can get involved in. Start serving Jesus today!