

ASSOCIATE PASTOR SEARCH INFORMATION PACKET



GRACE CHAPEL'S MISSION & VISION

TO GLORIFY GOD

by making & maturing disciples of Jesus Christ

THROUGH THE WORD, THRONE & FELLOWSHIP OF GRACE

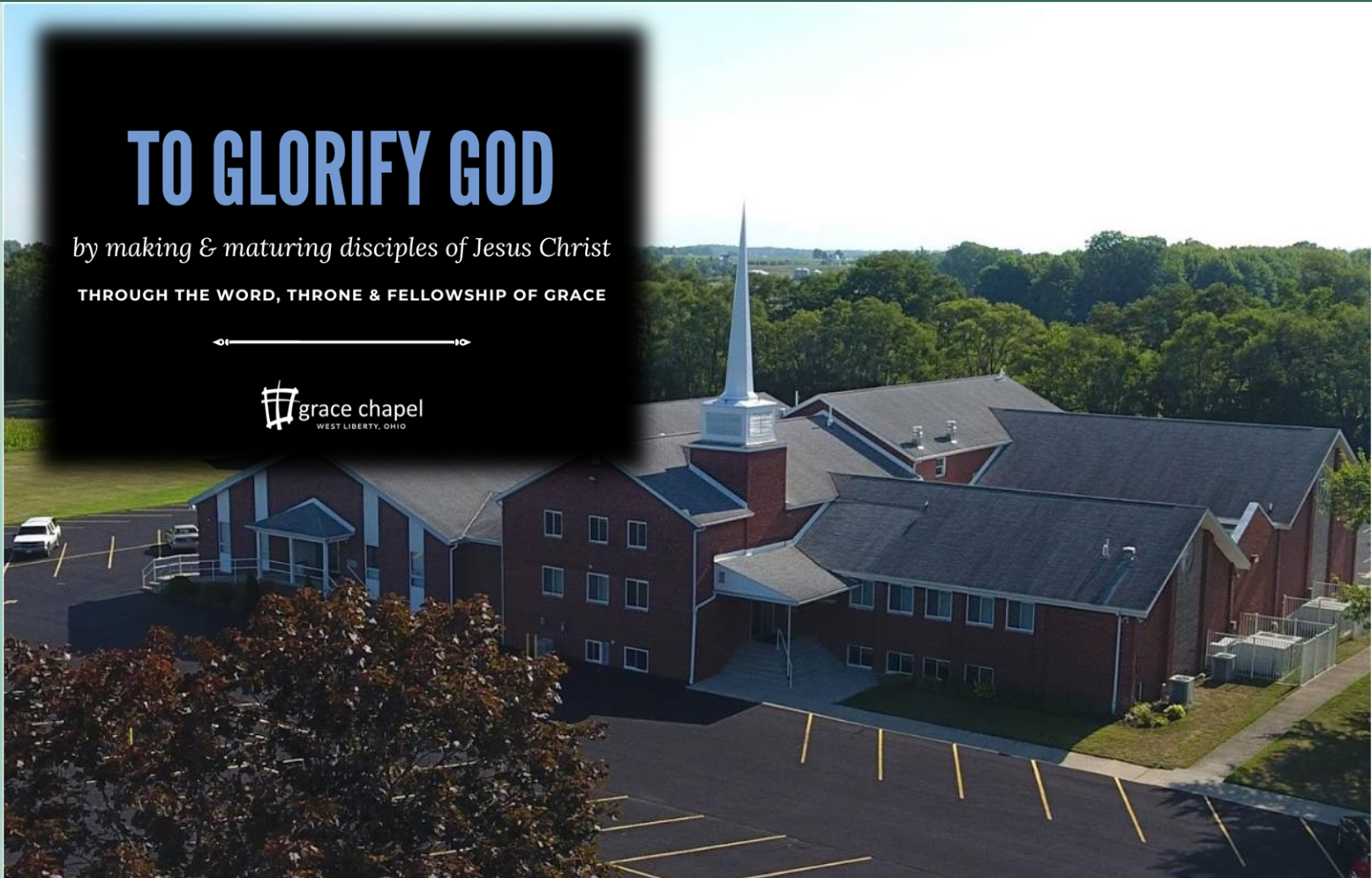


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OUR PAST



In 1956, Grace Chapel was envisioned by believers who hungered for Biblical truth. Their desire was “to provide a place of worship, win the lost to Jesus Christ, nurture the spiritual life of the believer, foster a deeper knowledge of the Word of God with respect to the needs of its members, and the needs of the community; and to awaken and maintain an interest in missions and in other projects for the winning of the lost to Jesus Christ.” There were forty charter members.

The first church building was a basement that was dedicated in August of 1957. The basement became classrooms in 1961 when the upstairs sanctuary was constructed. Since that time, we have added a larger sanctuary in 1982 and a large addition for fellowship and classrooms in 2000.

In November of 2016, Grace Chapel celebrated its 60th anniversary.

After a senior pastor resigned in November 2015, church leadership contacted **Interim Pastor Ministries** (IPM) to prepare Grace Chapel to move forward successfully with the next senior pastor.

On June 20, 2018, we adopted a new church constitution with 99% membership approval. This brought a previously disjointed document up to date with current church practices. (To view our constitution, go to gracechapelwl.org). Work began to develop a new policy manual.

On August 2, 2020, after a three-year search, the elders and congregation called Zach Dudenhofer to pastor, lead, and shepherd the body at Grace Chapel. God has been faithful to us!

OUR PRESENT



Grace Chapel remains true to its original charter. Under the teaching and leadership of Pastor Zach and the elders, Grace Chapel has enjoyed growth in numbers and growth in gospel ministry. New families and individuals have joined, enabling growth in our outreach to our community and our continued commitment to support worldwide missions.

This growth, which God has graciously accomplished through His people, brings us to this time where we now seek an Associate Pastor.

Who We Are

Our current membership includes 213 individuals. We have about 45 families with children at home and are blessed with people of all ages, including families with three or four generations, all involved in the life of the church.

Our Strengths

- Godly people who love to serve
- Excellent Bible teaching and a commitment to learning and living by the Word of God
- A loving and compassionate community of saints
- Responsive in times of tragedy, whether in the community or within the church
- Vibrant teen and children's programs
- Many talented musicians and Christ-focused worship music

Our Ministries & Committees

- Financial
- Floral and Decorating
- Ushers
- Greeters
- Hospitality
- Technology
- Missions
- Security
- Sunday School for all ages
- Vacation Bible School
- Women's Bible Studies
- Young Adults (ages 18-30)
- Youth Group (Jr. & Sr. High)

Our Worship Services

The morning worship service consists of 30 minutes of music, announcements, and ministry reports, followed by a 40-45-minute biblical sermon. Our music is a mixture of traditional hymns and contemporary praise songs, with different groups or individuals leading each week. Nursery is available for all services through two years of age and Children's Church is provided for ages 3-5 during the morning worship service. Our weekly attendance averaged 272 in 2022.

DEMOGRAPHICS

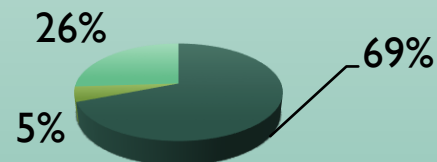
Gender

■ Women ■ Men



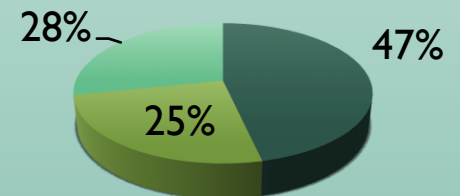
Membership

■ Regular ■ Associate ■ Attendees



Age Bracket

■ 18 to 39
■ 40 to 59
■ 60 & Up



Our Beliefs

Scripture

The Bible, containing the 66 books of the Old and New Testaments, is God's perfect Word. It is completely trustworthy, without error in its original manuscripts, perfectly sufficient, and our only infallible rule of faith and practice. We believe the Holy Scriptures to be the VERBAL PLENARY INSPIRED WORD OF GOD, absolutely authoritative and infallible in the original manuscripts, and altogether sufficient in themselves as our only infallible rule of faith and practice.

The Triune God

We believe in one God, eternally existing in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, co-equal. We believe in God the Father; perfect in holiness, infinite in wisdom, measureless in power. We rejoice that He concerns Himself mercifully in the affairs of men; that He hears and answers prayer and that He saves from sin and death all who come to Him through the Lord Jesus Christ. We believe in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ; in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, and in His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood; in His bodily resurrection; and in His ascension to the right hand of the Father; and in His personal, pre-millennial return to power and glory, according to His promise. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the third person of the Trinity, Who, having come forth from God, convinces the world of sin and of righteousness and of judgment; Who also regenerates, sanctifies, comforts, indwells, enlightens, empowers, baptizes, guides, and teaches all who become children of God through Christ.

Satan

We believe in the existence and personality of Satan. Satan is a created angel who incurred the judgment of God by rebelling against his Creator, involving numerous angels in his fall. He introduced sin into the human race by his temptation of Eve. He is the prince of this world who was defeated through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and will be eternally condemned to the lake of fire.

The Creation of the World and Humanity and Need for Salvation

We believe that God, solely by an act of His sovereign power and grace, and for the manifestation of His glory, brought the universe and everything in it into existence, out of nothing. We believe that Genesis 1-2 is a factual and literal account of God's creation of the world and humanity... We believe that man was created in innocence, but fell in Adam and is now totally unable to redeem himself... That all men by nature and by choice are sinners; that men became sinners through the fall of Adam... We believe that for the salvation of lost and sinful men, regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential. We believe in salvation by grace through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ...

Our Beliefs (cont.)

The Resurrection of the Dead

We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost; they that are saved unto the resurrection of life and they that are lost unto the resurrection of damnation.

The Status of Believers

We believe that every human being is directly responsible to God alone; and that only those who truly receive the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord are born of God. We believe that they are made partakers of the Divine Nature by the incoming and indwelling of the Holy Spirit and are sealed with the Holy Spirit, that these believers are kept by the power of God and that they will be presented faultless before the presence of His glory.

Dignity of Human Life

We believe that God created mankind in His image, which distinguishes humanity from any other creature. Therefore, from the moment of conception, to natural death, every human person should be afforded compassion, love, kindness, respect and dignity.

Mankind as Male and Female

We believe God created mankind as male and female, two distinct genders of humanity which complement and complete each other with each reflecting God's character and glory. The gender of each individual human is ordained by God and cannot be changed or altered by human will. The willful suppression, denial, or alteration of one's gender is sinful and offensive to the Lord.

Church

We believe that the church is the body of which Christ is the head, and all born again believers are the particular members. We believe in the one true church, a living and spiritual body, of which Christ is the head, and of which all regenerated people are members. We believe that a visible church is a company of believers in Jesus Christ; baptized on a credible confession of faith, and associated for worship, work, fellowship, prayer, teaching, a united testimony, and the observance of the ordinances of our Lord; and that God has laid on these churches the task of persuading the lost world to accept Jesus Christ as Savior and to enthrone Him as Lord and Master.

Note: Our complete doctrinal statement can be seen on our church website, gracechapelwi.org/about.



Our Governance

We consider ourselves an “elder-led” congregation. Currently, there are four elders, our senior pastor, and eight deacons. Members in good standing vote on all major issues that impact the values, vision, and direction of Grace Chapel.

- The affirmation of candidates to, and the removal of persons from, the positions of pastor, elder, deacon, and other elected positions outlined in the constitution
- Amendments to the constitution
- The annual budget
- Non-budgeted expenditures exceeding 2% of the annual budget (deacons and/or elders may act at their own discretion in cases of emergency, but it is their responsibility to report the expense and the reason for its necessity to the congregation in a timely manner)
- The buying, selling, or encumbering of real property

Missionary Outreach

- We currently support 15 missionaries from evangelical missions boards. We focus on church planting missionaries and support personnel for church-based ministries. All of our missionaries correspond with us and visit on a regular basis.
- Of our 15 missionaries, three are “home grown,” coming from within the church family, as well as three young men who became pastors.
- We provide opportunities for strategic, short-term missionary projects at home and abroad. We have regularly taken a team to Purdue University to provide maintenance for an international student ministry and we recently sent a team to Mexico to provide Vacation Bible School.
- For many years we have hosted a group of 20-30 international students from Purdue University. Families from within the church host the students in their homes, giving them a taste of what life is like in an American Christian home.
- We have done well with foreign missions through the years, but we’re lacking in our local outreach. Our community, in the past, was considered “Christian” and most of the residents were church-goers. That is not the case anymore. In response to this need of “being witnesses in Jerusalem...” we endeavor to have a greater impact on our community and have made provision for this in our annual budget. Our newly formed Outreach Committee is heading up the effort to reach into our community with the gospel.
- We are involved regularly in three community ministries – [New Path Pregnancy Resource Center](#), [West Liberty Cares Food Pantry](#), and [Green Hills Retirement Community](#).

Our Finances

Our church is debt-free with adequate savings. Our annual budget is \$566,400 with 49% of that being staff salary and benefits and 24% missionary support.

General Fund Average:

2020 – \$9,534

2021 – \$11,406

Our Staff

Currently we have a full-time pastor and nine part-time employees: two office administrators, a children’s and women’s ministry coordinator, a worship coordinator, a tech director, a treasurer, two custodians, and a building overseer.

Our Facilities

We are located on the east side of West liberty, Ohio. To the west and south are homes and to the east and north are the Mad River and farmland. Our building is 38,000 square feet with three stories, a sanctuary with pews, which seats around 450 people, two fellowship rooms and a very nice kitchen. We have office spaces for all employees, two nurseries, and at least 13 classrooms.

Fellowship Lounge



Kitchen



Shelter House & Playground



Child Check-In



Our Future

We desire to continue the legacy of strong biblical teaching from the pulpit, in classrooms and in Bible studies. We want to endeavor to have a greater impact on our community than ever before; both as a body and as individuals, reaching out to those around us. The purpose statement for Grace Chapel in the constitution also says it well:

As believers in Jesus Christ, the purpose of Grace Chapel shall be:

- to worship the Triune God
- to proclaim the Gospel to the lost of our community
- to strengthen the spiritual life of the believer
- to awaken and nurture in our members a desire to reach out locally and globally in missions for the evangelization of the lost to Jesus Christ



ASSOCIATE PASTOR PROFILE

Summary

Our next Associate Pastor will be a co-shepherd, serving alongside our Senior Pastor at Grace Chapel. While serving in all areas of pastoral ministry, the Associate Pastor's work will emphasize discipleship, education, and administration. He will also co-lead the elders and the congregation in our pursuit of the church's mission to exalt the Lord Jesus Christ, to build up the body of Christ, and to make Christ known to our community and to the world.

Qualifications:

- Possesses the qualifications of an elder as described in 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1
- A bachelor's degree in biblical doctrine, theology, or Christian education from a college, university, or seminary that is like-minded to GC (or equivalent knowledge and experience)
- Biblical counseling training and experience
- Faithfully cultivates a reverent relationship with the Lord through prayer and devotions
- Demonstrates through his words and actions a love for God, His Word, His people, and the lost
- Evidence of strength, maturity, and integrity that will encourage others to imitate and serve Christ
- Articulates a clear understanding and acceptance of theology consistent with Grace Chapel's Statement of Faith and agrees with Grace Chapel's doctrinal statement.

ASSOCIATE PASTOR PROFILE

Pastoral Responsibilities:

- Discipleship, counseling, and shepherding
- Ministry to youth and families
- Development and oversight of church education activities
- Administration of church programs and activities
- Occasional pulpit ministry
- Oversight of music ministry in cooperation with music team leaders (optional)

Pastoral Experience and Abilities:

- Prior ministry experience in discipleship ministry, education, and church administration preferred
- Demonstrate excellent leadership and communication skills, with the ability to use sound judgment in applying biblical truth to every situation
- Show a compassionate heart for counseling and shepherding the people of God
- Exhibit a degree of technical acumen in keeping with the needs of the next generation



All qualified applicants, please prepare your resume, cover letter, and any other helpful and appropriate information and apply on our website at:
gracechapelwl.org/about/employment

OUR COMMUNITY



THE VILLAGE OF WEST LIBERTY



The historic village of West Liberty, founded in 1817, is situated amid the scenic farmland of Logan County, Ohio. Located within an hour's drive of the state capital, West Liberty offers the charm of small-town life, with all the conveniences of city life, just a short drive away. As of 2016, the population was 1800. Our village is located approximately six miles south of Bellefontaine, the county seat, and is situated along the southern border of Logan County in the Mad River Valley.

West Liberty is an agricultural community, with some of the richest, most productive farmlands in the state. Honda of America, and its affiliated companies, also contribute greatly to our local economy.

There is a vast amount of history in our quaint little town. A Shawnee Village was once located just south of town. The Piatt family left their mark when they constructed two castles to the east of town in the mid-1800s. US Route 68, which runs through town, was part of General Hull's Trace, a road constructed during the War of 1812, which began in Dayton and passed through Urbana on to Detroit.

The climate in the area is typical of any Midwestern town. We enjoy the change and beauty of all four seasons.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

West Liberty is a close-knit community, and it shows in the way we come together to help those in need, and in the activities that happen year-round.

- On the 3rd Saturday in May each year, are the annual **Fire Sales**, a community garage sale day.
- In late June, the Lion's Club sponsors a **fireworks** display at our local park.
- Once September arrives, it's **Labor Day Festival time!** The Lion's Club Park transforms into a four-day gathering, full of food, games, craft vendors, and music. One highlight of the festival is the annual antique tractor parade. Thousands of people flood the streets to wave and cheer, and the little ones collect more candy than they might on Trick-or-Treat night.
- The Christmas season kicks off the day after Thanksgiving with **Christmas in the Village**. The day's festivities include an open house at **Marie's Candies**, a 5K Race, shopping in the local retail establishments, and an old-fashioned Christmas parade, during which everyone eagerly counts down for the lighting of the town Christmas tree.



LOCAL ATTRACTIONS

If you do not feel like driving to a big city to find something to do, there is plenty to keep you busy in and around our village. West Liberty is home to the [Ohio Caverns](#), one of Ohio's most popular tourist attractions. The caverns remain 54 degrees year-round and are home to the Crystal King. If you have a sweet tooth, then we are home to the one and only Marie's Candies. Feeling guilty about that pound of candy you just put away? No worries here, West Liberty offers plenty of outdoor activities for you to work it off, no matter the season!

- [Cedar Bog Nature Preserve](#)
- [Freshwater Farms](#)
- [Liberty Hills Golf Course](#)
- [The Ohio Caverns](#)
- Mad River, the largest cold-water fishery in Ohio
- [Mad River Mountain Ski Resort](#)
- [Myeerah Nature Preserve](#)
- [Piatt Castles](#)
- Simon Kenton Bike Path

Do you love to ride horses? Visit our own church member, Wrangler Matt, at [Marmon Valley Farm](#), just a short 10-minute drive from West Liberty. Marmon Valley puts on a live nativity each year at their Country Christmas, as well as offering Christian summer camps and fun family activities throughout the year.



The Ohio Caverns



Mac-a-Cheek Castle

FOOD

Within Logan County, there are several great options if you are looking to eat local. In [Bellefontaine](#), you'll love the brick oven pizza at [600 Downtown](#). If you are hungry for sushi, Kiyomi has an excellent variety. [Don's Downtown Diner](#) makes the best burger and fries around.

Head south on US 68, to [Urbana](#), for an Italian dinner at [Café Paradiso](#), or grab a sandwich at Mumford's Deli, where they make their own kettle-cooked potato chips.

Need a caffeine fix? There are several options in the area:

- Sweetie Pies, West Liberty
- The Depot & Teabaggers, Urbana
- Sweet Aroma's, Bellefontaine
- Native Coffee Company, Bellefontaine



CULTURE

The [Holland Theater](#), located in Bellefontaine, is a true gem! Built in 1931, the theatre originally had the capability of hosting both cinema and stage plays. Over the years it was converted to a 5-screen movie theatre, which sadly had to close its doors in 1998, due to the presence of a newer, more technologically advanced movie theater in town. Since 2010, there has been a persistent effort, by a local preservation group, to restore the theater. Throughout each year, there are several fine arts events held at the theater, including many children's and adult theater productions, such as The Lion King Jr., High School Musical Jr., A Charlie Brown Christmas, and much more.



EDUCATION

West Liberty-Salem is the local K-12 school system that serves the West Liberty community.

Other area schools:

- Bellefontaine City Schools
- Benjamin Logan Local Schools
- Calvary Christian, Bellefontaine
- Riverside Local School District
- Urbana City Schools
- Victory Christian School, Urbana

Post-Secondary:

- Cedarville University, 40 miles (NCAA Division II)
- Clark State College, 40 miles
- Wittenberg University, 25 miles (NCAA Division III)

HEALTH CARE

Health Care Providers:

- Community Health & Wellness, West Liberty
- Maple Leaf Family & Sports Medicine, Bellefontaine
- Mary Rutan Pediatrics, Bellefontaine
- Mary Rutan Urgent Care

Hospitals:

- Mary Rutan Hospital, Bellefontaine
- Mercy Medical Hospital, Urbana



GOVERNMENT

The village of West Liberty is governed by a mayor and city council. We have a police department, led by a full-time police chief and part-time deputies. Our fire department is staffed by a full-time fire chief and volunteer firefighters. There is an EMS located in the village as well.

LOCAL CHURCHES

Although West Liberty is a small community, it is rich in church history. Currently there are at least 13 active churches within the community, three of which are Mennonite.

CHRISTIAN RADIO

- **Rise FM Ohio**, Bellefontaine
- **WEEC**, Springfield







grace chapel

WEST LIBERTY, OHIO