Mission & Vision

**Mission**

To be a faithful, evangelical, confessional, Reformed, Presbyterian congregation proclaiming the gospel of Christ’s grace in southeast Arizona.

**Vision**

We seek to make disciples of Christ, teaching them to obey all that He has commanded (Matthew 28:19-20), by relying on the very things that the Lord Jesus has promised to bless and use for the good of His people: the Ordinary Means of Grace (Acts 2:42).

Congregation Details

Grace Presbyterian Church (GPC) is diverse with one-third of the congregation being children, one-third adults, and one-third retirement age.

Average attendance at the Sunday morning Divine Service is 111. Average attendance at our Sunday evening Divine Service is 26. Approximately 35% of the congregation attends Sunday School, and about 35% of the church is involved in a Family Bible Study. About 15% are involved in the church’s ministry in a volunteer capacity.
Ministry & Worship

The ministry of GPC focuses on the Ordinary Means of Grace. We believe that through the simple, ordinary practices of gathered worship, preaching, and prayer, the Spirit will most bless Christ’s Church and provide the believer with grace for this pilgrim walk.

- **The Word**: the congregation gathers for morning and evening worship on the Lord’s Day, sitting under the faithfully preached word.
- **Prayer**: the Divine Services are infused with prayer, and the Wednesday Prayer Meeting serves as a key part of the prayer life of the church.
- **The Sacraments**: the Lord’s Supper is served each Lord’s Day in the morning service. It is served on the first Sunday of the month in the evening service. Every Baptism administered is a joy to our whole congregation.
- **Discipline and care of souls**: our mid-week events are primarily Elder led.

Worship and Liturgy

GPC emphasizes the importance of the Sunday Morning and Evening Divine Services. It is our conviction that we begin and end the Lord’s Day in corporate worship. In the Divine Services, God calls us to worship Him while He speaks to us through His Word and Sacraments. We respond to His gracious calling in prayer, confession of sins, and song. For a sample of our liturgy, the current bulletin can be found on our website.

The Bible commands us to “offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, for our God is a consuming fire” (Heb 12.28-29). GPC takes this commandment seriously and structures the music accordingly. Psalms, hymns, and songs are chosen which correspond to the sermon and their order in the service. In general, we use the Trinity Hymnal and Trinity Psalter. Following the Regulative Principle of Worship, we strive to be reverent and joyful by keeping the music beautiful and simple. Instruments and vocals are located in the back of the auditorium to place emphasis on the message of the song rather than the “performance.”

Though not explicitly required, our pastors wear the Geneva Gown when leading the Sunday services. The purpose is to lift the eyes of the congregation from the person in the pulpit to God, from whom the pastor has received the authority to preach God’s word.
Grace Presbyterian Church

Missions & Community

GPC supports Mission to the World and Mission to North America missionaries and Reformed University Fellowship at the University of Arizona in Tucson.

In the local community, we financially support the work of CareNet crisis pregnancy center and Veritas Community Christian School.

About Grace

programs

- **Sunday School**
  Adult Sunday School is offered topically, with a focus on Reformed education. Children’s Sunday School consists of two elementary classes and a pre-school class in the Spring and Fall during the school year. An all-ages class is usually taught over the summer.

- **Family Bible Study** (Elder-led)
  Meeting in homes every other Friday evening, Family Bible Study includes a fellowship meal, teaching, and prayer for all ages.

- **Men's Bible Study** (Elder-led)

- **Women's Ministry Team**
  Women’s Bible studies; provide acts of mercy and encouragement to the congregation; organize fellowship meals, annual ladies’ tea, bridal/baby showers, etc.

operational ministries

- Music Team
- Kitchen Team
- AV Team

Missions & Community
History & Background

Grace Presbyterian Church can trace its roots to English-speaking Christians who were attending the Sierra Vista United Korean Presbyterian Church (PCA). In 1995, five committed families founded the church with the intent to establish an explicitly Reformed work in Sierra Vista. The church called a pastor, who was not eligible for membership in the PCA, due to previously being defrocked, and the work took a turn toward broad evangelicalism, rather than confessional Presbyterianism. The pastor was dismissed with cause in February 2004; he departed and planted another church near Sierra Vista.

The church turned to the Southwestern Presbytery, now the Arizona Presbytery, of the PCA for assistance. The presbytery voted to accept Grace Church as a mission church at their meeting in September 2004. Grace Church formed a pastor search committee and called Ken Roth to be pastor. Pastor Roth was installed as an evangelist and preached his first sermon at Grace on Easter Sunday 2005. After a season of teaching the Westminster Standards and the Book of Church Order, Grace Church was particularized as a church in the PCA on Reformation Sunday 2005. Once a Reformed identity was established, Grace Church changed its name to Grace Presbyterian Church.

In 2019, the Session desired to call an Assistant Pastor to support Rev. Roth in his work, as the congregation continued to flourish. Rev. Nathan Morgan was installed as Assistant Pastor in 2020, and the congregation called him to the position of Associate Pastor in 2021.

After having served faithfully for almost two decades, Pastor Roth announced his retirement at the January 2022 congregational meeting. His well-earned retirement will start at the end of 2022.

The church has occupied our building on Camino Segundo since before joining the PCA. This location is southeast of Sierra Vista, beyond the city limits, making the church more accessible to those who live in the well-populated outskirts of town, such as Hereford and Palominas. The building has been paid off for over four years.

The pandemic caused the church to close our doors to in-person worship for eight weeks. We began live-streaming all services during that time. Attendance dipped in the following months, but over time the church has returned to pre-pandemic attendance and in 2022 continues to show solid and increasing numbers. By God’s grace, there were no COVID deaths in our congregation.
Sierra Vista

The city of Sierra Vista was incorporated in 1956. Sierra Vista is located 75 miles southeast of Tucson, 15 miles southwest of Tombstone, 20 miles northwest of Bisbee, and 15 miles from the border of Mexico.

At 4,600’ elevation, Sierra Vista enjoys 275 days of sun each year. The climate is warm in the summer, but 10-15º F cooler than Tucson and Phoenix. Winter is cool with some frost and hard freeze opportunities; snow is rare.

The military installation, Fort Huachuca was established here in 1877. The Fort is famed as home to the Buffalo Soldiers; currently, the base houses the U.S. Army Intelligence Center and the U.S. Army’s Network Enterprise Technology Command. Fort Huachuca trains 9,000 students a year. Many civilians find employment through the installation.

The 2020 census recorded 45,308 residents. In the city, the median age was 32 years. The age distribution of the population shows:

The Sierra Vista Unified School District includes one high school, one middle school, and six elementary schools, in addition to private education options. The city is home to Cochise Community College and a remote campus of the University of Arizona.

The region is known as the Hummingbird Capital of the World and is a destination for birders year-round. Its winters attract seasonal ‘snow birds’ as well as year-round RV-ers. Sierra Vista is known for its proximity to scenic hiking, Old West ghost towns, Native American history, wildlife, prehistoric sites, vineyards, and more.

Carr Canyon

Our Location
Demographics
Sierra Vista is the largest of seven incorporated cities in Cochise County, and accounts for one-third of the county’s population. The population at the 2020 census of 45,308, up from 43,888 at the 2010 census, for a growth rate of 3.2% over the decade.

The Sierra Vista Area population is approximately 75,000, which includes outlying areas of Huachuca City, Tombstone, Whetstone, Hereford, and the unincorporated surrounding areas.

Economy
The median household income in Sierra Vista is $59,585. The economy of Sierra Vista employs 15,400 people (35% of the total population). The largest industries in Sierra Vista are Public Administration (3,072 people), Health Care & Social Assistance (2,125 people), and Retail Trade (1,848 people), and the highest paying industries are Utilities ($129,375), Professional, Scientific, & Technical Services ($76,273), and Public Administration ($71,969).

Climate
Sierra Vista falls within the typical cold semi-arid climate of mid-altitude Arizona. The city has a stable climate with very little humidity. Fall and spring, like most other parts of Arizona, are very dry. Winters are cool to cold with frosts and occasional hard freezes. Summer starts off dry, but progressively gets wetter as the monsoon season approaches. The North American Monsoon can bring torrential rains during the months of July and August, producing almost half the yearly rainfall in just those two months. From late May to mid-September, the average daily temperature is 86°F. Daily winter low temperatures range from 20°–30°F on average and up to 50°F on rare occasions. Snow is not a common sight on the streets of Sierra Vista; though some years the city can receive several inches of snow, and other years it will receive none. A snow-capped Miller Peak and Carr Peak in the Huachuca Mountains is a common sight for four to five months every year.

Gospel Opportunity in Cochise County
Roman Catholicism is the largest religious demographic in Cochise County and Sierra Vista, followed by general Protestantism. There are many churches in Sierra Vista, denominations represented include Baptist, Methodist, Pentecostal, Presbyterian, and Lutheran among others.

GPC is the only English-speaking, traditionally Reformed, Presbyterian church in Cochise County. There is considerable opportunity for church planting in the area as a future work of the PCA.

GPC is uniquely situated next to a military training installation; we welcome soldiers of all ages. We seek to build the faith of those who attend our church while they are stationed here, equipping them for wherever the military sends them next. We know that faithful preaching and discipleship, while short term, may be used by the Lord to spread the Gospel far and wide.
Pastoral Search Committee

Paul Northcutt, Chairman
Larry Walker, Vice-Chair
Sarah Morgan, Secretary
Nicole Bukle
Scott Butterfield
Max Ellis
Molly Ellison
Doug Kremer
Laurinda Wallace

How to Apply

To apply, please submit the following:

1. Cover Letter / Resume;
2. PCA Ministerial Data Form;
3. Links to at least two (2) recent sermons or teaching presentations.

Application packets may be submitted:

By mail to: Grace Presbyterian Church, ATTN: Pastor Search Committee, 4950 E Camino Segundo, Sierra Vista, AZ 85650

By email to: penorth70@gmail.com (all attachments should be in PDF format.)